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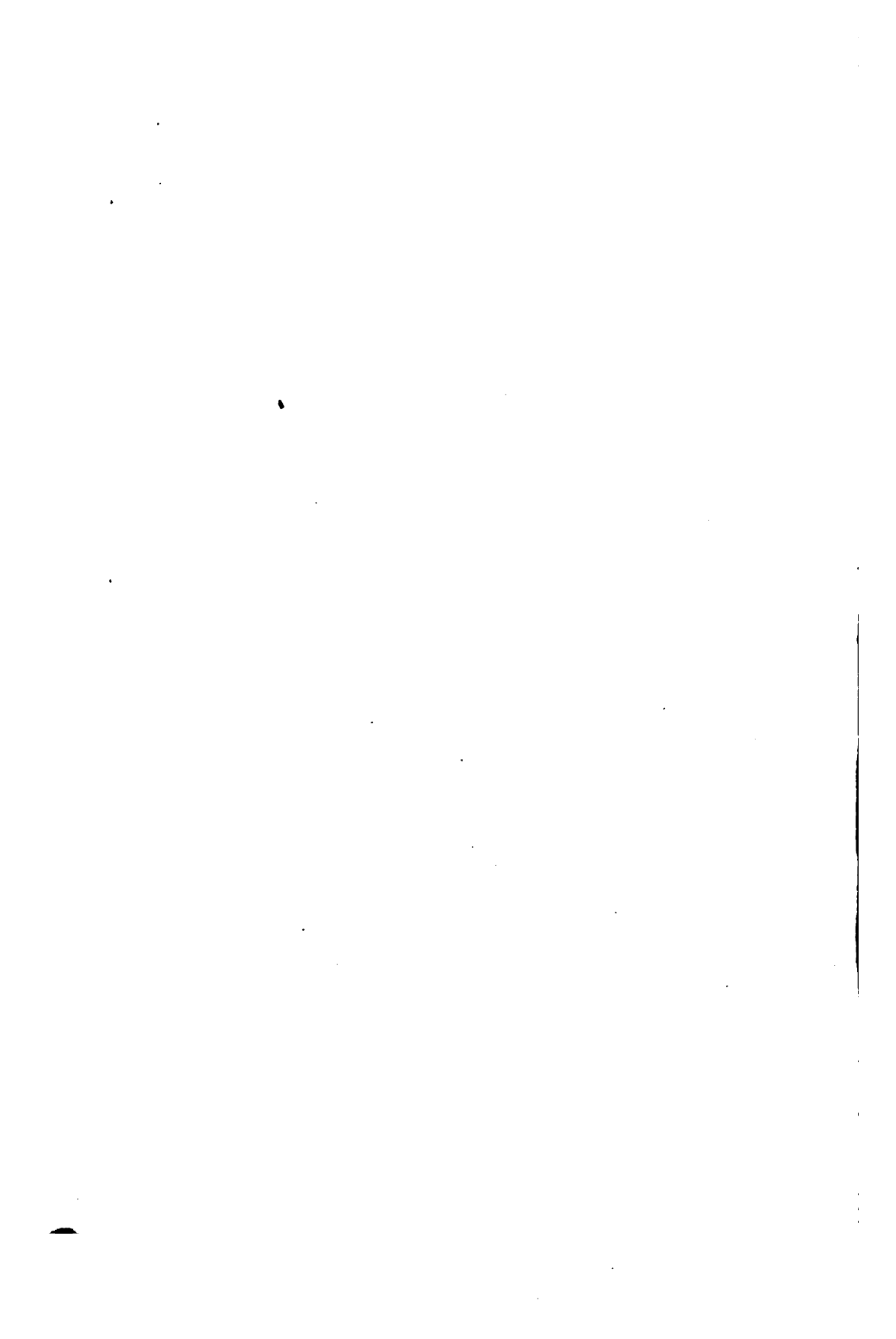
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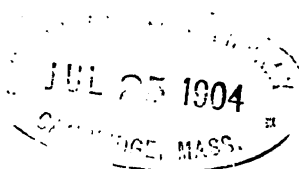
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EDITORIAL.

o o o

PROFESSIONAL APATHY.

DURING the past six years, a considerable amount of progress has been made, in certain directions, towards improving methods of library work. The improvements introduced have mostly come from the younger generation of English librarians, and it must also be added that this enthusiasm for betterment has been confined to a very small circle of young librarians. The majority of British librarians have apparently remained untouched by the movement towards more perfect methods compassed by their fellows, and it is doubtful if, in spite of the remarkably good work accomplished by a few earnest men in various parts of the country, there is not, on the whole, a great preponderance of professional apathy in regard to burning questions of librarianship. The proof of this is only too obvious. Anyone who has watched the dwindling attendances at monthly Library Association meetings must have been struck by the fact as indicative of weakness or defectiveness somewhere. No professional association, with professional interests at stake, is going to languish, and practically sputter out, unless the members are bored, or indifferent, or in some way apathetic. For nearly four years, the interest in the Library Association meetings has been declining, and although the annual gatherings have been more or less successful, thanks to the energy of the provincial members, it must be remembered that the monthly meetings have been very badly attended, although their interest has been as great as heretofore—which, however, is not saying much. Recently, this lack of interest has assumed the form of a kind of epidemic rot, which has attacked other associations as well as the parent one. We hear of one kindred society having entirely suspended its meetings for months, while we read of another which can hardly get an attendance large enough to carry a vote of thanks to the speaker. When we hear it stated that the interest in the Library Association meetings is so languid that even the readers of papers do not trouble to appear, and that about half-a-dozen members is all that can be mustered on some occasions, it must be obvious to all that

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there is something radically wrong. We have heard it suggested that the Library Association meetings take place on an impossible day, and that the notice sent out is insufficient because only published in the *Record*, which nobody reads! There may be an element of truth in these suggestions, but hardly enough to account for the all-round apathy which undoubtedly exists. The stimulus derived from the Leeds meeting has apparently evaporated already, and beyond a decidedly more healthy response to the examination scheme of the Association, it is hard to understand in which direction activity of any kind exists. Comparing the professional work on this side of the Atlantic with that of the United States, it must be confessed that the comparison is very unfavourable to the British case. In America there are dozens of flourishing associations, counting their membership in thousands, while here, there are some half-dozen associations, including the Library Association itself, which can only muster among them a little more than five hundred members. This is a poor record when one considers the possibilities, and if librarianship is to become a more powerful factor in the educational development of the future, it is evident that a strong effort must be made all round to double the membership of all the existing associations to begin with, and then to interest and retain the members who join by means of live meetings, publications, and other enterprizes. It will not suffice to rest on present achievements if librarianship is to be recognized as a greater power in the State than hitherto, and for this reason it behoves those librarians who have any "go" left in them, to try and pull up the existing machinery to a higher state of efficiency.



ESSAYS ON INDEXING.—X.

By ARCHIBALD L. CLARKE, *Librarian, Royal Medical and
Chirurgical Society, London.*

Continued from Vol. VI. p. 295.

o o o

I N the preceding paragraphs I have endeavoured to show that the first concerted effort to deal with the bibliography of scientific literature as a whole has been under a system of classification. I have also shown that the only *locus standi* for arrangement of the material by classification consists in the catalogue being international, so that if arranged alphabetically under English subject-headings, the entries would not be understood by many scientists who cannot read, much less speak, English. The force of this argument lessens when it is remembered how rapidly on the increase is the number of foreigners who do understand our language. It is therefore the purpose of the following pages to show that it is not only possible, but practicable, to construct an alphabetical subject-index of general scientific literature on the same principle as Poole's Index.

Examination of the titles of papers dealing with science in its various aspects proves that they differ very markedly from those written on subjects belonging to other departments of human knowledge. They may be very simple or, on the contrary, very complex, in proportion as the papers deal with (a) one subject, (b) with one or more subjects, or with (c) one or more subjects in relation with one another.

(a) WALLER (A. D.). The characteristic of nerve. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1899, lxx., 207-222.

(b) THEOBALD (F. V.). A short description of the Culicidæ of India, with descriptions of new species of Anopheles. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1902, lxxix., 367-394.

(c) WALKER (G. W.). The application of the kinetic theory to the electric, magnetic, and optical properties of diatomic gases. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1902, lxxix., 394-398.

The foregoing examples are taken from the "index slips" supplied with each number of the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*. These "index slips" are the outcome of a request made to each author "to furnish an analysis of his paper in such a form that it might serve as a subject-index"* in connection with the International Catalogue of Scientific Literature. These analyses (otherwise subject-entries) supplied by the authors differ very much according as the respective authors have expressed the meaning of what they have to say in their titles.

(a) "The characteristic of nerve" is apparently a very simple title, only it does not state what that characteristic is. The author, therefore, rightly supplies a subject-entry. "Nerve, excitation by condenser-discharge." So far, this is what is wanted, but no further entries are furnished, one condition of the compilation of these "index slips" being that entries are to be restricted as much as possible. It is obvious, however, for the purpose I am advocating, that there should be an entry—"Condenser-discharge, nerve excitation by," with a cross-reference to "Electrostatics."

(b) "A short description of the Culicidæ of India, with descriptions of new species of Anopheles." Entries are required under Culicidæ and Anopheles—genus and species respectively. But it is just as important that an entry "India" with the sub-entry "Culicidæ" should appear, and equally necessary that at least a cross-reference from "Gnat" and "Mosquito" should be made to "Culicidæ."

(c) "The application of the kinetic theory to the electric, magnetic and optical properties of diatomic gases." Subject-entry as regards this title has been reduced to "Dielectric constant of gases—relation to temperature." This is not sufficient, "Kinetic Theory," "Temperature," and "Gases" equally need entry to be made under them respectively.

* Report of the Proceedings of the Second International Conference on International Catalogue of Scientific Literature, p. 49.

It is made perfectly clear that restriction of entry is required on account of these subject-entries being arranged in a set place according to the International Catalogue's method of classification.* But alphabetical subject-indexes should aim at liberal entry. Only to take the last quoted title, the "Kinetic Theory" is the very first thing spoken of in the title itself, therefore entry must be made under it. Although not stated in the title, the relation of gases to "Temperature" is dwelt upon. But conversely, so is the relation of Temperature to "Gases;" therefore there should be entry under "Temperature." And "Gases," being actually mentioned in the title, cannot possibly be excluded from entry.

In the preceding examples I have endeavoured to show that the authors have chosen what in their opinion are the most important entries from a scientific point of view. But as this choice has been decided on the lines of limit of entry, it has followed that in some instances important subject entries have been omitted. Nevertheless, these headings, or analyses, are in most cases highly valuable; and they have the advantage of being supplied by those whose technical knowledge should fit them to know under what subjects the information conveyed by their papers would most likely be looked for. I shall quote several more entries from index-slips which have been compiled from recent volumes of the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*, and of the *Royal Irish Society* publications which embody all the more original investigations in every branch of science, and advances in such of the useful arts as are intimately bound up with science. The entries are quoted as they appear in the index-slips† both under author and subject, but those omissions which have been made under subject to save space, on the limiting principle already explained, will be supplied.

- (1) WARD, H. Marshall and GREEN, J. Reynolds—on a sugar bacterium. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 65-84.
 GREEN, J. Reynolds, and WARD, H. Marshall. [Same title-entry.]
 Bacterium and Yeast: symbiosis in fermentation of cane sugar. Ward, H. Marshall, and Green, J. Reynolds. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 65-84.
 Cane sugar, fermentation of, by bacterium and yeast in symbiosis. Ward, H. Marshall, and Green, J. Reynolds. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 65-84.
 Yeast and bacterium: symbiosis in fermentation of cane sugar. Ward, H. Marshall and Green, J. Reynolds. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 65-84.

*"The Royal Society now for some three years past have desired each author to give an analysis of his paper in such a form that it might serve for a subject-index, and you will find that, at all events in a large majority of cases we have been able to limit that analysis to about three entries; although sometimes that number has been exceeded, in the majority of cases, as you will see on looking at the slips now issued, we have been very successful in limiting the analysis." Prof. M. Foster's remarks, "Second International Congress on Catalogue of Scientific Literature," 1898, p. 49.

†Save for a few alterations and bibliographical details.

The title, "On a sugar bacterium," does not sufficiently indicate the scope of the paper, but the subject-headings that are supplied most clearly bring it out.

- (2) EWING (J. A.), and ROSENHAIN (W.). Experiments in micro - metallurgy. Effects of strain. Preliminary notice. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 85-90.

ROSENHAIN (W.), and EWING (J. A.). Experiments in micro - metallurgy. Effects of strain. Preliminary notice. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 85-90.

Crystalline structure of metals ; effects of strain on. Ewing, J. A., and Rosenhain, W. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 85-90.

Plasticity in crystalline aggregates due to slip on cleavage planes. Ewing, J. A., and Rosenhain, W. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 85-90.

Strain in metals and other crystalline aggregates : nature of. Ewing, J. A., and Rosenhain, W. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 85-90.

"Crystalline structure," "Plasticity," and "Strain" are all important and useful entries, but it will be noticed that there is no entry under "Metals." This should be made simply as follows :—

Metals : crystalline structure, effects of strain on. Ewing, J. A., and Rosenhain, W. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 85-90.

Had the three first entries been intended for an index to a journal concerned solely with "Metals" or "Metallurgy," entry under "Metals" would have been needless. But presumably these entries would be incorporated under the sections "Physics" and "Mineralogy"; and in an alphabetical subject-index to journals dealing with those sciences, "Metals" would certainly have to appear as a heading. Anyone who saw the entry "Crystalline structure of metals" would be led on to enquire about other properties of metals. The place to find them, therefore, would be under "Metals," arranged in alphabetical order.

- (3) BOSE (Jagadis Chunder). On a self-recovering coherer, and the study of the cohering action of different metals. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 166-172.

Electric radiation—Coherer, self-recovering. Cohering action of metals. Bose, Jagadis Chunder. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 166-172.

Entry under "Electric radiation" is useful scientifically, but from an indexing point of view it is not sufficient, and must therefore be supplemented as follows :—

Coherer, self-recovering : cohering action of metals : Bose, Jagadis Chunder. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 166-172.

Metals, cohering action of. Bose, Jagadis Chunder. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 166-172.

- (4) LOCKYER (Sir Norman), On the chemical classification of the stars. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 186-191.

Spectrum analysis ; chemical classification of the stars.
 Lockyer (Sir N.). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 186-191.
 Stars : chemical classification of. Lockyer (Sir N.). Proc.
 Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 186-191.

- (5) BONNEY (T. G.) The parent rock of the diamond in South Africa. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 223-236.
 Diamond, occurrence in South Africa in boulders of eclogite.
 Bonney, T. G. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 223-236.
 Eclogite, containing diamonds, from South Africa. Bonney,
 T. G. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 223-236.
 Garnet (pyrope) associated with diamond in South Africa.
 Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 223-236.

For an alphabetical index it is of the first importance that the name of the place should have entry. This, which has not been provided for in the headings given, should run as follows:—

Africa (South) : Diamond occurring in South Africa in boulders of eclogite. Bonney, T. G. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 223-236.

- (6) GILL (David), On the presence of oxygen in the atmosphere of certain fixed stars. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 196-206.
 Oxygen, existence in atmospheres of certain fixed stars. Gill, David. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 196-206.
 Spectrum of B Crucis, B and E Canis Majoris, B Centauri, Gill, David. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 196-206.
 Wave-lengths, interpolation in prismatic spectra. Gill, David. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 196-206.

In the foregoing example it will be seen that certain headings are given that alone could be discovered from a perusal of the subject matter of the paper, namely "Spectrum" and "Wave-lengths." But if the word "Atmosphere" is given in the title, there is no reason why there should not be entry under it.

Atmosphere (Oxygen in), existence of oxygen in atmosphere of certain fixed stars (D. Gill). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 196-206.

The words, "certain fixed stars," occur in the title. As this is an exclusive, not an inclusive, term, there need be no entry under "Stars" (fixed) beyond a cross-reference to the names of the particular stars. Now, these are not given in the analysis supplied on the "Index-Slip" for that part of the "Proceedings." As they are set out in detail under one of the headings—"Spectrum"—they must certainly have individual entry, whether in an index of astronomical or general science, as follows:—

Crux—B Crucis : spectrum : Gill, David. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 196-206.

Canis Major.

B. Canis Majoris spectrum [etc.]

E. Canis Majoris spectrum [etc.].

Centaurus. B. Centauri: spectrum [etc.].

The individual stars, being denoted by numbers or letters of the Greek alphabet, should be entered under the name of the constellation to which they belong.

- (7) CROOKES (Sir William). Photographic researches on phosphorescent spectra: on victorium, a new element associated with yttrium. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 237-243.

Fractionation, scheme of, applied to the rare elements. Crookes, Sir W. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 237-243.

Spectra (Phosphorescent) photographic researches. Crookes (Sir W.). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 237-243.

Spectrograph, with complete quartz train: 2-prism and 5-prism instruments. Crookes, Sir W. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 237-243.

Victorium: new element associated with yttrium. Crookes (Sir W.). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 237-243.

To complete the entries necessary for an alphabetical index there should be a cross-reference under "Photography" to "Spectrograph"; also the additional entry:—

Yttrium: Victorium, new element associated with yttrium. Crookes, Sir W. [etc.].

- (8) PLIMMER (H. G.), and BRADFORD (J. Rose). A preliminary note on the morphology and distribution of the organism found in the tsetse fly disease. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 274-281.

BRADFORD (J. Rose) and PLIMMER (H. G.). A preliminary note on the morphology and distribution of the organism found in the tsetse fly disease. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 274-281.

Infectivity of blood in tsetse fly disease. Plimmer, H. G. and Bradford, J. Rose. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 274-281.

Trypanosoma Brucei, the organism of tsetse fly disease; morphology, distribution and life-history; plasmodial and amœboid phases. Plimmer, H. G. and Bradford, J. Rose. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 274-281.

The heading "Trypanosoma Brucei," though not given in the title, brings out very usefully what is the main point of the communication, but there is no entry for what is relatively of equal importance "Tsetse Fly Disease." Under this heading information will be sought as to two points: Infectivity of the blood, and the organism. The arrangement will therefore run as follows:—

Tsetse Fly Disease :

infectivity of blood in : Plimmer, H. G. and Bradford,
J. Rose [etc.].

organism of (*Trypanosoma Brucei*) Plimmer (H. G.) and
Bradford, J. Rose [etc.].

And it will be understood that the sub-headings "Infectivity" and "Organism" take their place in one alphabetical order among other sub-headings, conveying additional information drawn from other papers on the "Tsetse Fly Disease." Lastly, as there is a heading "Infectivity of the blood," it is equally important that "Blood, infectivity of," should appear also.

(*To be continued.*)



OPENING OF TWO CARNEGIE LIBRARIES.

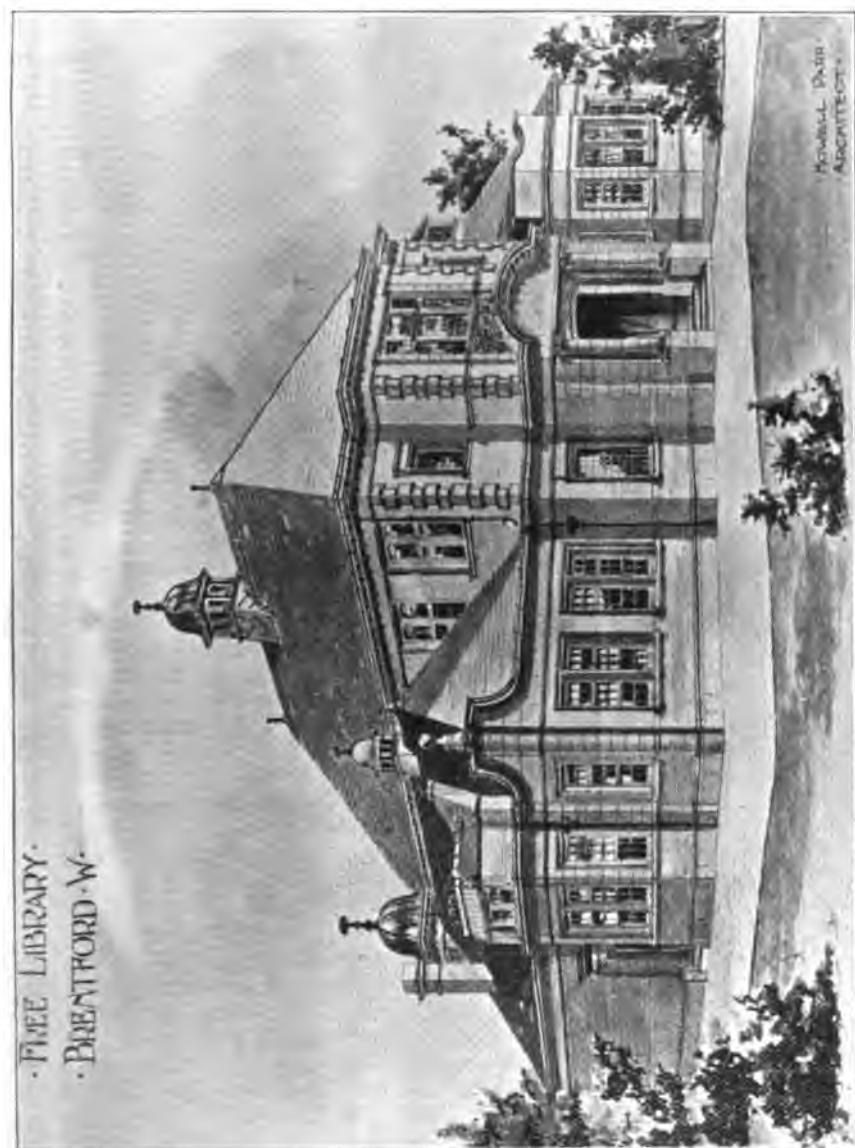
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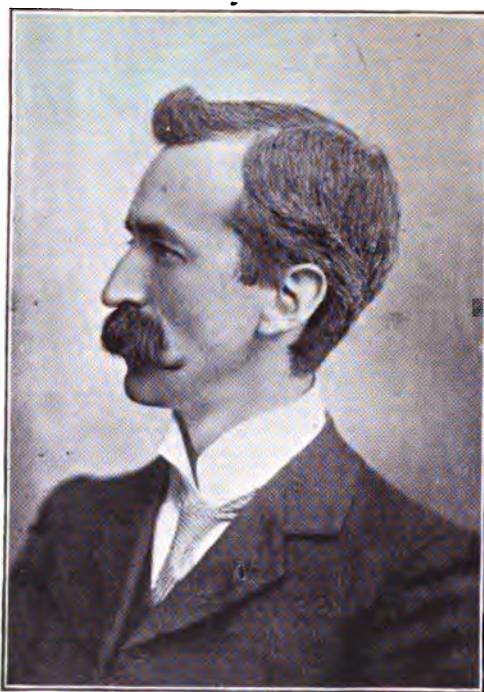
BRENTFORD.

ON May 9th, the ancient little town of Brentford was *en fête* to celebrate the opening of its new Public Library, which has been provided by the munificence of Dr. Carnegie, at a cost of about £5,000. There has been a Public Library here since 1890 in rooms lent by the District Council, but it had long out-grown its accommodation, and there was felt to be an urgent need for enlarged quarters. So in 1902, on the initiative of Mr. F. Turner, the energetic librarian, who has had charge of the library since its infancy, application was made to Mr. Carnegie, which had as its result the handsome building which has just been completed.

The library has been designed in the late Victorian style by Mr. Nowell Parr, of Brentford, and it contains a reference library 20-ft. by 20-ft., a reading room 45-ft. by 23-ft., a lending library capable of holding 20,000 volumes, and a lecture hall. Dr. Carnegie had promised to come to open it in person, and arrived about one o'clock. At half-past one, in the presence of a large company, Mr. T. Layton, the Chairman of the Library Committee, handed him a gold key with which he unlocked the doors, and having inspected the building, proceeded to the lecture hall, where an address was presented to him. In acknowledging it, he referred to the delightful situation of Brentford, and expressed his pleasure at having been able to assist them in the matter of a library. It was his principle to help those who were willing to help themselves; to such he extended his hand and said "My brother." Education was, in his opinion, the fundamental question of the day, and all should use their best efforts to promote it.

After some other speeches, the company adjourned to the Council Chamber for luncheon, at the conclusion of which, among other toasts submitted, was "The President of the American Republic," which was received with "most vociferous applause," and Dr. Carnegie expressed





MR. F. TURNER, LIBRARIAN

his intention of sending his menu card, so endorsed, to President Roosevelt. Appropriate speeches were made by Prof. Macneile Dixon (President of the Library Association), Mr. James Bigwood, M.P., Mr. Thos. Layton, Mr. W. Bradley, Mr. C. J. Cross, and Mr. Stallabrass. Mr. Stallabrass, in proposing the toast, "Success to the Library," referred to the success which had attended the working of the library, and expressed a hope that the librarian to whom the success was so largely due would find it possible to remain with them as long as he was able to do the work. The Librarian, in replying, expressed his gratification that the library had been so appreciated, as it had been his constant endeavour

in the past, and would be in the future, to make it a credit to the town and an institution of real value to the people. He felt most grateful to the District Council and the Library Committee for the kind interest they had always shown in the library, to the architect for the way in which he had planned the building, and to all who had in any way contributed to the result which they that day rejoiced to see.

KETTERING.

What is in many respects one of the most compact and best designed small libraries in the country, was declared open by Dr. Andrew Carnegie on May 7th, 1904. This is the Kettering Public Library, which was designed by Messrs. Goddard & Co., of Leicester, and erected from the gift of £8,000 given by Dr. Carnegie. It was opened amidst a scene of great enthusiasm, and the inhabitants showed their interest in the proceedings by 'rushing' the barriers and practically taking possession of the building immediately after the doors were opened by the donor. The proceedings included a banquet and the usual speeches, a record of which is preserved in a nicely-produced and well-illustrated "Souvenir of opening of Kettering Public Library,"



Spelght, Kettering.

MISS KATE F. PIERCE, LIBRARIAN.

published by Messrs. Thurgood, Harts & Co., Kettering. To this "Souvenir," Miss K. E. Pierce the Librarian has contributed a sketch of the library movement in Kettering, and Mr. Catlow, of Messrs. Goddard & Co., an architectural description of the building. From the practical library standpoint, the building may be described as most effective in arrangement, and as presenting a general appearance of spaciousness, lightness and airiness such as is rarely found in one building. The building is well isolated from any surrounding structures, and thus gains everything necessary in the way of light and air; while good planning accounts for the rest. It is divided into six departments, all of which



Spelght, Kettering.

Reference and Magazine Room



Spelght, Kettering.

Central Hall, with Delivery Counter and Lending Library.

are well-balanced and inter-related. First, entrances, consisting of a vestibule and a large hall. On the right of the hall is a large room, $44' \times 39'$ not yet appropriated, but ultimately intended for a reference library. On the left of the hall is the newsroom, $53' \times 39'$, out of which opens a magazine-room 900 square feet, which at present contains the reference collection. At the end of the hall, the lending library ($60' \times 36' 6''$) is situated, and the remainder of the building is occupied with librarian's room, strong-room, and care-taker's house. The open access system is used in both reference and lending departments, and the lending department is very interesting from the fact that the bookshelves radiate from the staff enclosure, in the style which has been so widely adopted in recent American open access libraries. This gives splendid over-sight, and enables the borrowers to be well distributed, so as to avoid over-crowding at any point. From the staff enclosure a view is obtained of the other departments, and there is direct communication between the magazine or reference room, and the lending department. An interesting feature

is the special students' table, designed to give plenty of room, isolation and comfort to anyone using a number of books. This has been copied in oak from the design in Brown's "Manual of Library Economy," and makes a most effective and comfortable study-table. Altogether, the building is one of which Kettering, and indeed all Northamptonshire, has every reason to be proud, and on an equally good site, it furnishes a model which could be adopted with every advantage anywhere else. We are indebted to Messrs. Thurgood, Harts & Co., for the illustrations given in the text.



INDUSTRIAL CATALOGUES IN THE PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

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A PROPOS of Mr. Zimmerman's reference in the February *Library Journal* to this library's collection of "trade catalogues," I would say that they have been recently reclassified and arranged alphabetically by the name of the firm publishing them. The notation used is that given in the "Cutter-Sanborn three-figure order table," followed by the figures 1, 2, 3, when there is more than one catalogue published by the same firm.

The collection now consists of 499 volumes representing 193 firms. 380 volumes have been added to the original collection, and all catalogues now out of date have been "weeded out" in order not to stand in the way of later works. Of the total number of volumes, 112 are published as late as 1902, and all but 121 of the 499 volumes are the latest catalogues, issued by the respective firms. 55 volumes of the original collection have not yet been reclassified, as the firms publishing them have not yet replied to our letters concerning their most recent catalogues.

The original suggestions as to firms from whom to obtain catalogues were received from Mr. C. W. Andrews, now of the John Crerar Library, of Chicago, and from a Providence mechanical engineer. The more recent additions have been made largely at the request of those who are in the habit of using the library. These trade catalogues are used considerably. Some typical questions are given below, which they have helped to answer; "Industries of Pittsburgh," "Catalogues of chemical apparatus," "Crompton and Knowles' looms," "Westinghouse engines," "Link-belt machines," "Catalogues published by electrical works," &c.

In most instances the reader applying to use the collection has in mind the name of some particular firm.—WILLIAM E. FOSTER, of the Public Library, Providence, R. I., in the *Library Journal*, March, 1904, p. 116.

LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

O O C

MR. **Hudson**, of Middlesbrough Public Library, is issuing a broad-sheet containing a list of books for engineers which may be taken out or consulted, with a view to bringing more prominently before the workers the opportunities for study which the library affords.

THE foundation-stone of the Carnegie Free Library at **Chadderton** was laid on May 14th, by Councillor E. Kempsey.

THE new Free Library of **Wellington** was formally opened, on May 18th, by the donor of the site.

MR. J. H. **HARDCASTLE**, of the **Eastbourne** Public Libraries, has compiled a catalogue of juvenile literature in the hope of making the children read books of an educational nature. The new Carnegie Library is rapidly approaching completion. Many new features in library equipment have been adopted, which will be described in a subsequent number of the *Library World*. Elliot's indicator is in use. The architect is Mr. P. A. Robson, of Westminster.

SUBJECT to the consent of the Cecil Rhodes' trustees, a site in Forest Road, Dalston, has been offered by Colonel Frank Rhodes to the **Hackney** Borough Council, for the Public Library building to be erected by Dr. Carnegie.

THE **Battersea** Borough Council contemplate inserting, in a Bill to be promoted by them before Parliament next year, a clause which will remove the library rate limit as far as Battersea is concerned.

THE new Public Library in Lower Kelvin Street, **Dublin**, was formally opened on May 24th, by the Lord Mayor of that city.

Gateshead Public Library is now closed on Sunday to permit of fumigation of the books, as several have recently been found in infected houses.

THE **Stepney** Public Libraries Committee have established a "nature study museum" in connection with the Borough Museum. It is intended for the exhibition of simple and common living things.

THE contract for building the Carnegie Library for the **Southall-Norwood** U.D.C., of which Mr. Reginald Brown is architect, has now been placed.

TENDERS are being invited for building the **Beverley** Public Library. The building will comprise two storeys, the upper one principally taken up with a large lecture room and museum or picture gallery.

LEST the library should suffer under a stigma, the Librarian of **Penge** Public Library has stated through the press that the South Norwood boy, charged with stabbing a school-fellow, did not obtain books dealing with Red Indians from that library, as he resided outside the district.

MAY 25th saw the celebration of the jubilee of the **Bolton** Public Libraries. It is interesting to note that the first librarian appointed was a policeman.

At the annual meeting of the **Bulawayo** Public Library, the question of a supplementary catalogue was seriously discussed. The loss to date on printed catalogues being £45, it was decided to use a card catalogue.

At a lecture given in the Rubens Room of Windsor Castle before the King and Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and others, Mr. Richard R. **Holmes**, the Royal Librarian, speaking on "Early Painting in Miniature," stated that the term "miniature" was derived from the word "minium" (the red paint known as vermillion). It was popularly thought that "miniature" was derived from the Latin "minimum."

THE Public Libraries Acts have been adopted by the **Radstock** U.D.C.

"It is a conjecture that one of the epitaphs of the future will be something like this:—'Here lies John Pittsburg Skibo Smith, who was born in a Carnegie Town, educated in a Carnegie Institute, studied in a Carnegie Library. At the age of Thirty he became a Carnegie Hero, and has now gone to be with Carnegie.'"—*Financial Times*.

At the laying of the foundation-stone of the **Manor Park** Public Library (East Ham), one of Dr. Carnegie's gifts, on June 2nd, Mr. Passmore Edwards read the following letter from the Doctor:—"My dear friend,—You are the man of all the world that I should have chosen to open the East Ham Library. How delightful that I should open your library (the first which I had not myself given), and you are to perform a similar service for me. Well, you are one of the people that I should like to take my chances with for the next world. Burns's words come to me:

'For with such as he, where e'er he be,
May I be saved or d—d.'

THE **Hobart** Public Library is an institution which is not appreciated by Hobartians as fully as the library committee would wish. It was founded in 1847, and appears to possess some remarkable volumes; namely, books that were used by the prisoners at Port Arthur and other convict stations. How they came to find shelter at Hobart the librarian is unable to say.

Stepney has joined the ranks of those go-ahead libraries which encourage the intelligent study of topics of the day, by issuing reading lists. Pamphlets have been issued under the direction of Mr. Cawthorne, the librarian, referring to topics of the moment. These lists give authors, titles of books, notes whenever necessary, and the book-numbers in all four libraries (Whitechapel, Mile End, Limehouse and St. George-in-the-East. Under the heading of Russo-Japanese War, for example, the books are classified as relating to "The Far East generally," "China," "Japan," "Korea" and "Russia." A sketch map is also included showing the Russian sea and land route to the Far East. This method could be adopted elsewhere with advantage.

At the annual meeting of the **London Library** on June 16th, the Prime Minister was nominated president in succession to the late Sir Leslie Stephen.

THE premiated design for the **Wakefield** Public Library is by Messrs. Cox, Trimnell and Davison, of the Adelphi, London, who designed the Kingston-on-Thames Public Library building.

A DESIGN has been selected for the erection of a Public Library at **Tipton**, on a site contiguous to the Victoria Park.

THE *Building News* illustrates the selected plan for the new Public Library at **St. Anne's-on-Sea**, by Mr. J. D. Harker, of Manchester and Blackpool, and the selected plan for the new Public Library at **Erdington**, by Mr. J. D. Osborne, of Birmingham.

A COMPETITIVE design has been selected for the Public Library and Public Offices at **Ilkley**.

MR. ROEBUCK, of St. George-in-the-East Public Library, has a competitor in Mr. Basil **Anderton**, who, we learn, has shewn his sympathy with the blind in Newcastle by publishing a catalogue of books for sightless readers, in raised characters.

MR. JAMES **Christison**, a native of Montrose, has been appointed librarian of the Montrose Public Library.

IN connection with the enlargement of the **Stoke Newington** Public Library, Alderman William Eve, the chairman, gave the committee a surprise by handing the Mayor (at the opening ceremony) a Bank of England note for £500, to be used for the purpose of meeting any excess of expenditure on the Carnegie extension of the library.

MR. ROBERT **Bateman**, of Oldham, has been appointed Curator of the Whitworth Institute, Manchester.

THE **Boston** (Lincoln) Public Library was opened on June 16th, by the Mayor (Ald. J. Cooke).

AT **Wem** (Salop), a Public Library is being erected to the design of Mr. F. H. Shayler, of Shrewsbury. The late Mr. John Morgan, of Wem, left a sum of money to be expended in the erection of a building, and for its support.

DR. CARNEGIE has promised £1,500 to **Bolden Colliery**; £1,000 to **Norton** (Yorks); £2,000 to **Bideford**; has increased his gift to **Kinross** from £1,500 to £1,800; and has offered to contribute towards a Public Library at **Wrexham**.

DR. CARNEGIE's offer of a library building (for which application was originally made) has now been declined by **Bollington**. He has declined to increase his original offer of £3,000 to **Annan**, and in consequence the plans for a building have to be modified.

DR. CARNEGIE has agreed to give £800 toward a Public Library at **Hatton**, Cruden, on condition that the inhabitants raise £500.

THE Annual Reunion and Excursion of the **North Midland Library Association**, will take place on Thursday, July 7th, when the Association will visit Skegness. The arrangements are in the hands of Mr. Briscoe, of Nottingham, who will be pleased to hear from any friends who would like to join the party.

It is rumoured that the **District Messenger Service** now undertakes the labour of procuring books for library readers, who are tired of spending a large portion of their lives in searching indicators for books which are never "IN"!

A BUREAU has been established in **Stockholm**, entitled the Swedish Record Bureau, for assisting the literary world at home and abroad in procuring information from Swedish record offices, Public Libraries, &c., which otherwise is not obtained without considerable difficulty. Through its connection with scientific institutions abroad, the Record Bureau is in a position to act as an intermediary for the interchange of reports and information between Sweden and other countries.—*Athenæum*.

Lewisham is rapidly developing its library service, and the committee are to be congratulated on their progress, and their economic management. A few years ago the library was housed in a small chapel, but now there are three libraries and a fourth is about to be opened. The plans for a fifth library are also in course of preparation. The work of organizing these libraries has been under the care of Mr. Thomas Graham, the chief librarian. Several useful ideas in the management have been introduced by the librarian, including a system of Card Charging combined with Indicators for Fiction only, to show books IN and OUT, which will ultimately save the Committee a very large sum of money.

MR. HARRY **Townend**, of Bradford, has been appointed librarian and curator of the **Bury** Public Library and Art Gallery in succession to Mr. Sparke. Mr. Townend is thirty-one years of age and has had eighteen years varied experience at Bradford.

MR. H. **Ferguson** has been appointed librarian of Clackmannan Public Library out of 193 applicants, in succession to Mr. Sage, resigned.

AT a recent meeting of the **Wick** Public Library Committee it was decided that the librarian should wait on annual voluntary donors, and collect their subscriptions for the current year!

IT is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. Frederic William **Madden**, eldest son of the late Sir Frederic Madden, and late chief librarian of the Brighton Public Library. He was in his 65th year, and held his position at Brighton Public Library from 1888 until 1902, when he was succeeded by Mr. Minto. Mr. Madden was a great authority on coins, and has written much relative to numismatics. A sketch of his career, with portrait, appeared in the *Library World*, vol. 2, p. 37, 1899.

LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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CATALOGUES.

Dumbarton Free Public Library. Catalogue of Lending Department. pp. 26 + 254. 8vo. 7" × 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". 1903.

A dictionary catalogue. Contents are set out where necessary and an attempt has been made to indicate sequel stories. Analytical entries of important essays, prefaces, &c., are supplied. Subject entries might with advantage have been more numerous, but on the whole the workmanship is above the average.

St. Bride Foundation Institute. List of early printed books. By R. A. Peddie. pp. 4. 4to. 10" × 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". 1904.

This list of the incunabulæ contained in the technical library is arranged according to Proctor's "Index," and references are given to the book number in that work. The collection comprises some 100 volumes, representing most of the famous presses.

Scranton Public Library. Index Catalogue: authors and subjects. pp. 6 + 428. 4to. 10" × 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". 1903.

This seems to be intended for a finding-list to complete works rather than an index to the resources of the library on any particular subject. For fuller information, readers are referred to a large analytical card catalogue in the library.

Entries are cut down as much as possible, and dates of publication are given only under subjects.

The catalogue seems to have been rushed through, and would have been the better for a careful revision. Blind references are too frequent; we are referred from "Agriculture" to "Veterinary art," and from "Sangreal" to "Grail, Holy," but nothing appears under either of those headings. "Snuday schools" as a heading looks odd. A catalogue of the "Young People's Library" is printed at the end.

Stockport Public Library. Catalogue of the Lending Library. pp. 13 + 453. 8vo. 8" × 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". 1903. Price 6d.

A dictionary catalogue on the usual lines, contents of important miscellaneous books are set out, no annotations are given, dates of publication are supplied, but we have the old complaint to make that the dates of the periods covered by historical works are not given. The general workmanship is very good, but the details are sometimes inaccurate. Several title entries have been omitted in the case of fiction. "Violet Jacob" becomes "Jacobs" at the title entry, and "Le Queux" appears as "Le Quex," while Cobban's "African Treasure" becomes "African Treasurer." "Sense and Sensibility" again is not by "E. Austin," and there is something wrong with "Griffith, Gaunt, by C. Reade."

Swindon, G.W.R. Mechanics Institute. Second supplement to the catalogue of 1897. pp. 103. 8vo. $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5\frac{1}{2}''$. 1903.

Entries under author and subject with title-entries for fiction. Annotations are given where necessary and contents are set out. The work is generally accurate and of a high standard, although we notice a blind reference from "Buddhism" to "Great Religions," while "Anabaptism, *see* The Old Church Porch," savours of the ludicrous.

Victoria Library of Western Australia. Catalogue of books.

Part iv. 4to. $11'' \times 7\frac{1}{2}''$. 1904.

This part covers D-E and contains pages 229-308. We have already noticed the principal features of this catalogue, but one point we should like to emphasise. Dates of publication are not given under subject headings, and their want is particularly felt in this part. For example, under the headings "Electricity" and "Electrical Engineering" there are some ninety or a hundred entries without a single date. Text-books of a subject like electricity go out of date in a few years so that dates are absolutely necessary to enable a choice to be made.

Waterloo-with-Seaforth Public Library. Catalogue of Fiction and Juvenile Literature. Compiled by Kate Fearnside, Librarian. pp. 102. 8vo. $7'' \times 5''$. 1904.

Entries are under author and title, and separate alphabets are given to Fiction and Juvenile Literature. The article is left in at the beginning of titles, and this, although it sometimes confuses reference, certainly makes many of the titles more intelligible.

Waterloo-with-Seaforth Public Library. Classified List of Books on History, Biography and Travel. Compiled by Edith G. Taylor, Librarian. pp. 6+62. 8vo. $7'' \times 5''$. 1902.

Arranged on the Dewey system. Contents are set out, and occasional annotations are given. Biographies and other special works illustrating a particular period of history are put with the period. The only fault of this list is that it wants an index to authors. An index to countries is supplied, but it is not enough.

REPORTS.

Accrington, third report, 1903-04. Stock 8,949 volumes; borrowers 3,442; volumes issued 84,810, last year 74,576; fiction percentage 76.05. Several changes have taken place during the year; the lending library is now closed on Wednesday afternoons, stocktaking is done without closing the library at all, and school-children are allowed to borrow on the recommendation of the head teachers. The open-access system has worked well.

Battersea, (two branches), seventeenth report, 1903-04. Stock 53,033 volumes; borrowers 16,501; volumes issued 409,647 (lending 371,201, reference 38,446), last year 409,525. An attempt is to be made to remove the 1d. limit in Battersea. Museums and gymnasiums are to be provided, and a suitable site has already been selected. The issues

in the reference library have increased by 7,570, and "this increase is the more remarkable as it coincides with a large extension of the 'open access' system in that department." A series of Gilchrist lectures have been given, and the University Extension Lectures have been continued.

Bootle (one branch), seventeenth report, 1903-4. Stock 25,677 volumes; borrowers 4,812; volumes issued 132,048 (lending 113,591, reference 18,457). At the request of the Education Committee, fortnightly book deliveries have been established in connection with the six voluntary schools of the Borough.

In recognition of this service, a grant of £50 has been made for the purchase of books. Thirty-six lectures, forming the seventeenth season, were given, and were well attended. A stock and shelf index of the reference library has been completed, and several small catalogues and bulletins have been published and *given away*.

Great Yarmouth (one branch), eighteenth report, 1903-04. Stock 26,056 volumes; borrowers 3,583; volumes issued 121,546 (lending 117,428, reference 4,118), last year 123,159. Dr. Carnegie has offered £5,000 for extensions to the Central Library and £2,000 for a new building for the existing branch. The offer is coupled with the condition that a 1½d. rate be devoted solely to the support of the libraries.

Kettering, eighth report, 1903-04. Stock 6,358 volumes; borrowers 2,167; volumes issued 64,273 (lending 60,020, reference 4,253), last year 60,771. Special attention has been given to the juvenile section. An attempt has been made to obviate the betting nuisance in the news-room by keeping back the late editions of papers until 6 p.m. Before this time they can be had on application.

Kilburn, eleventh report, 1903-04. Stock 10,760 volumes; borrowers 7,469; volumes issued 93,106 (lending 91,166; reference 1,940), last year 90,738. Electric light has been installed in all departments, and the reference library is now opened at 9 a.m. instead of 10.30. a.m. as formerly.

Kristiania. Deichmanske Bibliothek, Aarsberetning, 1903. Stock 70,651 volumes; borrowers 5,592; volumes issued 441,157, last year 439,344. The statistics show a remarkable increase in the issue during the last five years. The library was reorganised in 1898 and in the following year the issue was 174,393; the next year it rose to 319,236 and has increased ever since. Several photographs show a well arranged and excellently lighted interior.

Norwich, 1903-04. Stock 41,173 volumes; borrowers 5,875; volumes issued 148,690 (lending 128,411, reference 20,279), last year 126,060. The custom of closing the library during August has been abolished. The increase in issue is mainly in the fiction section, and the publication of a catalogue key of that section is said to be the cause.

Perth. Sandeman Library, fifth report, 1903. Stock 27,213 volumes; borrowers 4,439; volumes issued 104,338 (lending 93,124, reference 11,214). The tendency throughout the year has been to grant freer access to borrowers. In the reference department, "the open access system has been further developed with corresponding advantages to the readers," and in the lending department two additional counter cases have been provided, and "a large number of books taken out are selected from the books thus exhibited."

Stirling and Glasgow, 113th report, 1903-04. Subscribers 924; volumes issued 120,322 (lending 54,892, reference 65,430), last year 119,726. The publications of the Patent Office have been removed from Stirling's library hall to the hall of the Baillie library recently vacated, under an arrangement whereby Stirling's library receives an annual grant of at least £350 for providing accommodation for them. A list of books added during the year is given.

Waterloo-with-Seaforth, sixth report, 1903-04. Stock 8,584; borrowers 1,886; volumes issued 59,929 (lending 57,997, reference 1,932). Dr. Carnegie has promised £3,000 for a branch library. The books have been re-arranged, and additional shelving has been supplied.

Wigan (two delivery stations and one juvenile library), twenty-sixth report, 1903-04. Stock 61,599 volumes; volumes issued 193,947 (lending 87,051, reference 37,651, juvenile library 69,245) last year 181,123. The library is crippled for want of room, although temporary relief has been obtained by adding seven show cases to the reference library. The present system of electric lighting, not being satisfactory, is to be altered. The catalogue of the reference library is now published up to letter N. The greater part of the report is occupied with lists of books consulted and issued, books added, and books donated.

Cork, eleventh report, 1903. Stock 9,851 volumes; borrowers 2,532; volumes issued 101,707 (lending 90,751, reference 10,956), last year 94,440. This has been the most successful year in the history of the library, the issues being the largest recorded and the fiction percentage being the lowest.

Hove, eleventh report, 1903. Stock 15,693 volumes; borrowers 4,584; volumes issued 104,068 (lending 91,850, reference 12,218), last year 107,570. The sum of £10,000 has been offered by Dr. Carnegie for a library building. Great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining a site, but it is hoped that one will be obtained in a good central position. Indicator charging has been introduced in place of the ledger system.

Leeds: Institute of Science, Art, and Literature, 1903. Borrowers 2,530; volumes issued 45,012, last year 42,674. A series of lectures have been given, and have proved very successful.

Longton, twelfth report, 1902-03. Stock 11,305 volumes; borrowers 1,448; volumes issued 48,852 (lending 46,810, reference 2,042), last year 49,641. Annotated lists of books on technical subjects have been circulated in manufactories with good results. Topical books are collected for inspection by the public, and arrangements are being made to hold exhibitions.

New Jersey (U.S.) Public Library Commission, fourth report, 1903. A very interesting summary of library activity in New Jersey. One hundred and sixteen libraries have reported to the Commission, and the result is embodied in a table. There are some very noticeable differences between these libraries and British ones. For example, of 79 reporting libraries, 69 are classified according to some systematic scheme. The percentage of fiction issued varies to a remarkable degree, falling as low as nine and rising to 99. It is a significant fact that out of 110 reporting libraries, 86 are open access.

St. Louis (U. S.), 1901-02. Stock 156,092 volumes; borrowers 54,701; volumes issued 1,082,370 (lending 778,507, reference 303,863), last year 998,597. The tax rate for the library fund has been raised from one-fifth to two-fifths of a dollar, thus doubling the income. It is hoped that a new building, to be paid for by the Carnegie gift of last year, will be commenced before the end of the year. Nine new delivery stations have been opened, bringing the total up to 61. Lists of juvenile books showing comparative popularity are given.

Sunderland, 1902-03. Stock 27,796 volumes; borrowers 4,015; volumes issued 143,558 (lending 124,103, reference 19,455), last year 125,317. Dr. Carnegie has offered £10,000 for building two branches. From an examination of 550 books withdrawn during the year it appears that the average life of a novel when bound from the sheets is three-and-a-half years. Two lectures given by the library are said to be the means of circulating a number of books.

Victoria, 1902. Stock 195,616 volumes; borrowers 8,051; volumes issued 167,847 (lending only, the number of visits paid to the reference library was 331,006), last year 158,064. "It is satisfactory to be able record, after an experience of three years and a half, that the open-access system is working satisfactorily." Current fiction is not obtained by the library, only standard authors being in stock.

Whitehaven, fifteenth report, 1902-03. Stock 8,566 volumes; volumes issued 22,081 (lending 20,675, reference 1,406) last year 21,980. £5,000 has been offered by Dr. Carnegie, for a new library, and the Committee are trying to obtain a site. The classes on technical subjects held at the library under the auspices of the Borough Education Committee have been continued.

Workington, 1902-03. Stock 10,089 volumes; borrowers 2,551; volumes issued 52,836, last year 50,895. Dr. Carnegie gave £7,500 for a new library last year, and the building is now approaching completion. A delivery station has been in existence four years, and is the

outcome of an agreement with the neighbouring Urban District of Harrington. A book club, of which each member pays a subscription of 10s. 6d., is run in connection with the library. Books bought for the benefit of the club are handed over to the general library at the end of twelve months.

BULLETINS.

Accorington. *Quarterly Journal* (April-June). Notes and News, an illustrated article on "Vessels of Leather, and a list of historical novels dealing with the eighteenth century."

Birmingham. *Occasional Lists, 4: The Fiscal Question.* A list of books, in alphabetical order, with a huge list of magazine articles. Separate lists are given for the various departments.

Bootle. *Russo-Japanese War.* An annotated list of books, geographically arranged, dealing with the countries concerned in the present war. It is given away.

Brooklyn. *Books on the Far East.* A list similar to the one mentioned above. *Books That Girls Like.* Selected by the girl readers themselves. Arranged under four headings: Boarding School and College Stories; Other Good Stories; Novels; Miscellaneous.

Cardiff. *Public Library Journal* (April). A description of the exhibition of Welsh bibles, list of "Guides for Tourists," "Notes and News," and another instalment of the "Bibliography of Wales." This number is illustrated with three photographs of pictures.

Croydon. *The Reader's Index* (May-June). A "Reader's Note-book," bibliographical article on "Diaries," and the usual annotated lists of additions.

Manchester. *Quarterly Record.* The usual list of additions, and a description of the recently acquired "Manchester Foreign Library" of 14,000 volumes.

Nottingham. *Bulletin* (June). "The Study of Poetry," lists of books and magazine articles on "Radium" and "Arms and Armour," continuations of the "1904 Author-List of Novels and Tales," and "Assumed Names in Literature."

St. Louis. *Monthly Bulletin* (May). "Books for Out-of-Doors," and a list on "Trusts."

West Ham. *Hand Lists, 7: The Fiscal Question.* Arranged under four main headings: "Political and Social Economy"; "International Trade"; "Capital and Labour"; and "Money and Currency," with sub-divisions. A list of magazine articles and a view of the Houses of Parliament are added.

From **Brooklyn** comes an illustrated report of the "Cornerstone Laying of the First Carnegie Branch (Williamsburgh) of the Brooklyn Public Library, November 28th, 1903." The Carnegie scheme provides for the erection of sixty libraries at an average cost of 80,000 dollars in the city of New York, twenty of which are allotted to Brooklyn.

THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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THE *Library Association Record* for May opens with Mr. E. A. Savage's suggestion for "Co-operative Book-buying." After reviewing the present relations of the book trade to Public Libraries on the questions of discount and "net" books, he urges the appointment, by the Library Association, of a Books Committee to watch over and protect the interests of the libraries. This suggestion, by the way, has been adopted by the Library Association. Mr. H. V. Hopwood deals with the subject of "Reference Shelf-Placing: Ideal and Practical." His ideal includes the following ingredients: an arm-chair beside a fire, a revolving bookcase, a pipe, and a vague something designated by "creature comforts." The practical portion is treated very fully, and in a very thoughtful and suggestive manner. The chief points are—the reference books should be so placed that they may be used without serious breaks in the continuity of the reader's work. They should be of unchanging appearance so as to be easily recognized, and should remain in the same place so as to be found by force of habit. They should all be within easy reach of eye and hand, and be so arranged that books habitually used together shall stand together. And, finally, all information in the library should be brought to the reader's notice in the most efficient manner.

The most suggestive article in the *Library Journal* for May is Mr. W. E. Foster's "Where ought the Emphasis to be Placed in Library Purchases?" He asks what weight should be given to the questions of newness, fiction or non-fiction, quality, recreational value, the financial conditions of the reader and of the library, and, finally, what other motives should be allowed to govern, and whether the library should not abdicate its position of intellectual influence in the community. Enno Littmann supplies a description of the Garrett collection of Arabic manuscripts at Princeton University Library. There are several short articles on the relations of libraries and book-sellers, and two plans and two views of the Clark University Library, built last year.

The "Bibliophile Society" of Boston is described in the April *Literary Collector*. It was founded in 1901 with, as object, "the study and promotion of the arts pertaining to fine book-making and illustrating, and the occasional publication of specially designed and illustrated books." George F. Carter writes on "Some Little-known Whittierana," and a hitherto unpublished poem of Whittier's is also given. Mr. Pollard contributes one of his "London Bibliographical Letters."

The latest *Rivista delle Biblioteche* covers the months February to April. Professor Solerti describes the Ariosto archives, and Guiseppe Baccini supplies another instalment of the letters of Niccolò Tommaseo to Iambruschini. The most interesting contribution is a series of letters from some twenty-six Continental librarians describing the methods in use in their various libraries for guarding against fire. They have been collected and commented upon by Guido Biagi.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

o o o

THE seventh monthly meeting of the Library Association was held at Brighton on Thursday, May 26th, by invitation of the Library Committee. About thirty members and visitors attended, and it was felt that the muster was disappointingly small considering the importance and interest of the occasion. The members first visited the new library, museum and art gallery, and were shown over the departments by Mr. John Minto, the Librarian. The newsroom and the reading-room are on the ground floor, together with the lending department, and the reference library is on the floor above. In both book departments open access is allowed—to a select collection of dictionaries, encyclopædias, and other works in the reference, and to the non-fictional books in the lending department. The museum is not yet re-organized, but the art gallery has interesting loan and other collections on view. The Booth museum, a very fine ornithological collection, was next visited and afterwards the members assembled at the Royal Pavilion, where they were received by the Mayor and Mayoress of Brighton, and entertained to tea. Afterwards a vote of thanks was proposed to the Mayor by Mr. Jast, on behalf of the Library Association, and an adjournment was made to another room in the Royal Pavilion for the purpose of transacting the other business of the meeting. Mr. Mathews, chairman of the Brighton Public Library Committee, was called to the chair, and Mr. Minto read a paper by Mr. W. E. Doubleday, entitled—

“Weeding-out and kindred problems,”

which was discussed by Messrs. Jast (Croydon), Carter (Kingston), Brown (Finsbury), Willmer (London), Bridle (East Ham), Minto and Mathews, and votes of thanks were passed to the writer and reader of the paper, and to Mr. Mathews for his conduct in the chair.

Those members who did not attend missed a most enjoyable and memorable meeting, and the thanks of those who did attend are due to Mr. Minto and his chairman, Mr. Mathews, for the efficient and liberal arrangements which they made for the comfort of visitors.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM ASSOCIATION
OF LIBRARY ASSISTANTS.

UNDER this formidable title, the Tyneside assistants have banded themselves into a society which, under the presidency of Mr. J. A. Charlton Deas, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, promises to do some useful and interesting work. The Association has already met at Newcastle-on-Tyne, South Shields, and Sunderland, and the following papers have been read:—

Coulson. “Are Newsrooms an acquisition to Public Libraries?”

Daniells. “Do Juvenile Readers receive the attention which is due to them?”

Griffiths. “Open Access.”

Ross. "Branch Libraries."

Smith. "What is the best indicator system for lending libraries?"

This list, with a repetition of Mr. Deas' paper on "How to extend the usefulness of Public Libraries," forms a remarkably good programme for such a young society. The next meeting at Tynemouth will discuss—

"Some humours of Public Library work."

"Library books and infection."

"Librarianship as an occupation for women."

Mr. James Ross, Public Library, Newcastle-on-Tyne, is the honorary secretary.

THE PSEUDONYMS.

THE last meeting of the Pseudonyms for the present season was held at the usual place, when Rob Roy assumed the chair, and inflicted a long and somewhat dry address—"drivelling" address as it was characterized—on the members, which was duly resented by the less thoughtful and intelligent of those present. The subject chosen was

THE STATE RECOGNITION OF LIBRARIES, and the author dealt with this from the point of view of copyright, state-aid to libraries, and from other standpoints. It was discussed by all who were present, in various degrees of compassionate contempt, and as it would be invidious to single out for special notice any of the pearls of wisdom which were hatched on the occasion, it will, perhaps, be more useful to give the chief heads of Rob Roy's paper as being of greater interest than any of the remarks which it elicited.

"It may be true, as has been claimed, that the State has approved, and even supported churches, universities, schools and other *teaching* institutions; and I believe it is also claimed that EDUCATION has actually been smiled upon by some of the states, where mere pedagogy and culture have not been hopelessly confused. But as regards libraries, the only storehouses of learning which have any permanent value, every State has been, on the whole, indifferent, and unwilling to realize the enormous importance and power of books as the *sole* record of human knowledge.

It is not necessary, in such a meeting of experts, to insist upon the necessity and value of libraries, and I may proceed to examine what has been done by the State in this country, to evade its responsibilities. You have all heard about our beneficent Parliament, and its terrific efforts on behalf of libraries and education, which at the present time have resulted in a glorious muddle all round. When approached about fifty-five years ago on the subject of popular libraries, it said—"Yes, go ahead. *We* approve of the principle of libraries. If you think well of them, then start one, and carry it on at your own expense, only—don't spend more per annum than 6d. or 8d. per head of population—*it is only a penny make-believe.*" In this way, Parliament has delegated most of its educational responsibilities, and instead of being the

inspirer and originator of the idea and practice of education, it has simply played the part of a mildly-approving patron, without incurring much pecuniary liability. It has, in other words, played the fool, as regards Public Libraries in this country, by setting up impossible libraries, in unsuitable areas, under such financial limitations, that one marvels by what extraordinary piece of good luck the bottom did not fall out of the show years ago. I attribute this fortunate result more to general ignorance as to what constitutes a really good library, than to any inherent good qualities in the legislation passed for the creation of libraries.

Let us look the matter fully in the face, and consider what would happen if every possible area adopted the Public Libraries Acts; and every inhabitant of such area who could do so, were to make full use of the penny libraries so established. There are in England and Wales about 1,150 urban districts, 662 rural districts, and 62 ancient or civil counties, a total of 1,874 separate and independent administrative areas. In Scotland there are about 510, and in Ireland about 550, administrative areas, making in all about 3,000 places which could adopt the Acts if so disposed. I include the civil counties because it is quite possible the Act will become law which confers upon County Councils (other than County Boroughs) the power of establishing Public Libraries. These 3,000 administrative areas include cities like London, Glasgow and Liverpool, as well as parishes like Middle Claydon with a population of 230, and remote Highland districts inhabited by ten human beings 20,000 sheep, and the necessary number of dogs. The penny rate in these districts will produce incomes ranging from 25s. to £25,000 per annum, and, of course, the value of the libraries will rank accordingly. When we consider the kind of library which can be got for any sum less than £1,000 per annum, one can appreciate the colossal ineptitude of any central Government which authorises a national system of Public Libraries, depending on local option, and surrounded by absurd limitations. The result is that about 200 administrative areas have institutions something like libraries while 2,800 places have, or would have, collections, which are a mockery and a sham.

Now, let us take the other question I have raised. What would happen if the Public Libraries of the country were used, as they might be used by the people, while the penny limit imposed by the State still remained? In a town of 140,000 inhabitants known to me, there would be about 70,000 possible users who might all use the lending department; half of them the reference department; and perhaps 60,000 of them the various newsrooms. To meet the needs of such a town, at least 140,000 volumes would be required in the lending libraries, and perhaps 50,000 in the reference departments. Probably ten large branch libraries would be required to accommodate the readers, and the annual income would have to be about £10,000 instead of the miserable £1,650 which it actually is. Had Parliament ever realized the possibilities which exist for an enormous extension of library work, it would never have sanctioned the establishment and

administration of libraries by sanitary authorities, or the ridiculous rate limitation which now exists. But, as I have already pointed out, the State does not care about libraries, and it is so absolutely indifferent, that it will not even consider what must be the future of institutions maintained on a pauper's allowance.

Having now discussed in a calm and temperate manner, the shortcomings of the state as a mother and a nurse, it is for us to consider remedies for a thoroughly unsatisfactory condition of matters.

All authorities are agreed that our present administrative areas are too small for most municipal purposes. Librarians are equally in agreement that such areas are simply hopeless for library purposes. My first proposal, then, is that the future units for library administration should be the County Council and Borough Council areas, and that all other administrative areas should be merged in them for this purpose. I should eliminate the Urban District Councils entirely, as most of them are too small, and are otherwise ineffective. The result would be to constitute about 200 areas for public library purposes throughout the United Kingdom, instead of the present extraordinary number of 3,000, most of which are simply impossibly small. The next step would be to remove the control of the libraries from the Sanitary Authorities, and transfer them to the Educational Boards of the various County authorities named. The County Educational Boards should be empowered to appoint special library committees on which experts could be co-opted, and the sums required for administering the libraries throughout the area should be raised on an estimate annually prepared by the Library Committee. From this, needless to say, all limitation of a statutory kind would be removed. The County Library Committee would have power to appoint district sub-committees wherever necessary, to look after buildings, staff, and administration, but the whole of the methods and policy would be directed by the main committee, acting through an expert staff. The State should do its part of the work of consolidation, by aiding in exchanges between libraries; establishing a central bibliographical bureau in connection with the copyright department of the British Museum, and by subsidizing all kinds of scientific and semi-Public Libraries so as to make them available for public use. The State, in return for these outlays, in which all the libraries would share, should insist upon the universal adoption of systematic classification; the selection of properly trained officers; and absolute uniformity as regards hours of opening and closing, and other matters of public access which would expedite interchangeability all round. Beyond this it would be unwise to go. Each area should be free to develop along its own particular lines, in all that concerns methods of administration, because otherwise there would be danger of that awful stagnation which is to be seen in France and other bureaucratic countries. I believe that the adoption of a scheme on these lines would be economical, and exceedingly effective, and would place the country lad in remote parts of the kingdom on an equal footing with his fellow in the towns as regards access to the chief sources of knowledge."

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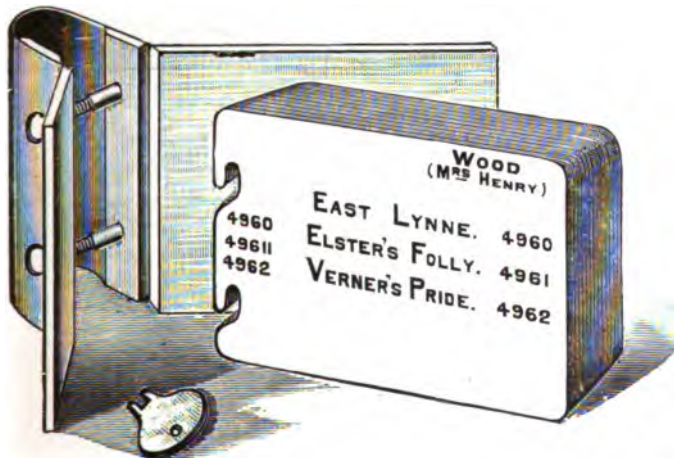
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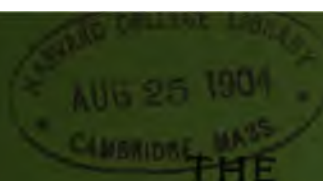
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A fairer comparison, however, would be to take into account the relative counter accommodation, also oak-framing to ledger indicators so generally adopted. The difference in cost would then be even more extraordinary, and would inevitably lead to reflections as to the number of books which could be bought with the saving, or the additional furniture or fittings that could have been obtained.

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ESSAYS ON INDEXING.—XI.

By ARCHIBALD L. CLARKE, *Librarian, Royal Medical and
Chirurgical Society, London.*

Continued from Vol. VII. p. 8.

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- (9) BUDGE (E. A. Wallis). On the orientation of the pyramids and temples in the Sûdan. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1899, lxx., 333-349.

Azimuth: amplitude and declination. Budge, E. A. Wallis. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1899, lxx., 333-349.

Magnetic north, variation of in the Sûdan. Budge, E. A. Wallis. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1899, lxx., 333-349.

Orientation of pyramids and temples in the Sûdan. Budge, E. A. Wallis. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1899, lxx., 333-349.

Here, again, owing to the analyses being intended for the purely scientific scheme of classification, the locality is omitted: there should, therefore, be entry under *Sûdan; Pyramids; Temples*:—

Sûdan: orientation of pyramids and temples in. Budge, E. A. Wallis. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1899, lxx., 333-349.

Pyramids in Sûdan, orientation of [etc.].

Temples in Sûdan, orientation of [etc.],

or, if the orientation be of greater importance than the locality, let the arrangement stand thus:—

Pyramids, orientation, in Sûdan [etc.].

- (10) CHREE (C.). Collimator magnets and the determination of the earth's horizontal magnetic force. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1889, lxx., 375-413.

Magnetic elements: errors in determination and defects in formulæ. Chree, C. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1899, lxx., 375-413.

Magnets, Collimator. Temperature and inductive co-efficients; moment of inertia; asymmetry; law of action between. Chree, C. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1899, lxx., 375-413.

To complete the set of entries, the following is needed:—

Earth: determination of the earth's magnetic force. Chree, C. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1899, lxx., 375-413.

The entry, "Magnets-Collimator," affords an opportunity for discussing the arrangement of sub-headings. A glance at the entry will show that there are four facts stated about the magnets. These facts, instead of being arranged in four separate sub-headings, alphabetically arranged, are all grouped under one. For the sake of analysis, this arrangement is permissible, but it is certainly not so for indexing. If the entry is wanted for the index of that one particular

volume (Vol. 65), there is good reason why these four sub-headings should be arranged alphabetically and the reference repeated, as follows :—

Magnets, Collimator :

asymmetry. Chree, C. Proc. Roy. Soc., etc.
law of action between. Chree. Proc. Roy. Soc.
moment of inertia. Chree. Proc. Roy. Soc.
temperature and inductive coefficients. Chree. Proc. Roy. Soc.

Under any circumstances it is more convenient to have the information in a methodical form, even in a single volume, and if a cumulative index is made of the contents of preceding and succeeding volumes, all the facts about Collimator Magnets will have to be arranged alphabetically. The task will be simplified if the arrangement, as above, is adopted in each individual volume.*

(11) BLYTHSWOOD (Lord) and MARCHANT (E. W.). On the absorption of Röntgen's rays by aqueous solutions of metallic salts. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, lxx., 413-428.

MARCHANT (E. W.) and BLYTHSWOOD (Lord). On the absorption of Röntgen's rays by aqueous solutions of metallic salts. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1899, 413-428.

Röntgen's rays : absorption by aqueous solutions of metallic salts. Blythswood (Lord) and Marchant (E. W.). Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.].

Now the next heading that follows is :—

Solutions of metallic salts, absorption of Röntgen's rays by [etc.].

It is the last, and might very well be dispensed with, and the following, which is not given, substituted :—

Metallic salts (Solutions of) Absorption of Röntgen's rays by. Blythswood (Lord) and Marchant (E. W.) [etc.].

"Metallic salts" and "Röntgen's rays" are terms which afford very good instances of the attributes in compound words being kept in their place and not inverted. Metallic is by far the more prominent word, and "Röntgen's rays" will always best be indexed under the name of their discoverer.

(12) LOCKYER (Sir Norman). Notes on the spectrum of silicium. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 449-452.

Silicium, spectrum of, Lockyer (Sir N.). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 449-452.

Spectra of the elements : silicium. Lockyer (Sir N.). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 449-452.

The foregoing entries call for no comment ; they are sufficient and methodical.

* The same remarks apply with similar force to the heading "Trypanosoma Brucei" (see No. 8 above), where several facts grouped as an analysis under that subject require alphabetical arrangement. Allusion to this was omitted, as other points of indexing claimed prior comment.

- (13) LOCKYER (Sir Norman). Preliminary tables of wave-lengths of enhanced lines. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 452-461.
Enhanced lines. Table of wave-lengths. Lockyer (Sir N.). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 452-461.
Wave-lengths of enhanced lines. Lockyer (Sir N.). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 452-461.
- (14) KEEBLE (F. W.), and Gamble (F. W.), the colour physiology of *Hyppolyte varians*. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 461-468.
Gamble (F. W.) and Keeble (F. W.), the colour physiology of *Hyppolyte varians*. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 461-468.
Chromatophores of *Hyppolyte varians*. Keeble (F. W.), and Gamble (F. W.). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 461-468.
Colour-changes in *Hyppolyte varians*. Periodicity; Influence of light, of surroundings and of nervous system on. Keeble (F. W.), and Gamble (F. W.). Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.].
Hyppolyte varians. Habits, colour-changes, and chromatophores. Keeble (F. W.), and Gamble (F. W.). Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.].

If it were quite positive that the first and last word had been spoken on "Colour-changes in *Hyppolyte varians*," there might be no harm in the entry remaining just as it is—a useful analysis to the scientist, but one of little value bibliographically. If the sub-entries and their dependent sub-entries are to be shaped as material for a cumulative index—still more if they are to be arranged for dispersal under *all* that has been written on "Colour-changes" in a great index to general scientific literature, a very different method of display becomes necessary:—

Colour-changes
 in *Hyppolyte varians*
 influence of light on
 of nervous system on
 of surroundings on
 periodicity.

The same method applies to arrangement under *Hyppolyte varians*, thus:—

Hyppolyte varians:
 chromatophores
 colour-changes
 habits.

- (15) PETAVEL (J. E.). An experimental research on some standards of light. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 469-503.
Electric arc, intrinsic brilliancy of crater. Petavel (J. E.). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 469-503.
Standards of light—electric arc, molten platinum (Violle and Lummer and Kurlbaum). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 469-503.

(To be continued.)

A SMALL LIBRARY'S OPPORTUNITIES.

By EDWARD WOOD, *Public Library, Bingley.*

o o o

LIBRARIANS in charge of small municipal collections are sometimes apt to forget, when enviously regarding some of the larger libraries, that, in many ways, a small library has advantages over its larger rivals, and may even carry out ideas and suggestions which are too laborious to be carried out on a very great scale. As an illustration, I wish to cite the experience of my own library at Bingley, and show how, by working out these suggestions, the membership has been raised from 700 to 1,600, and the annual issues from 24,000 to 54,000 volumes.

Bingley, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, is a small town with a scattered population of about 18,000, and a library of 14,000 volumes. Five years ago the membership stood at just over 700, and the annual issues totalled about 24,000. This, in our opinion, was far short of what it might be, and we began to consider how we might increase both membership and issues, at the same time securing the benefit of making such increase as solid and valuable as possible.

Our first improvement was made in the reference department. Under the old system, students wishing to consult reference works could only do so by taking them to the periodical tables, very much to their own and other people's inconvenience. In order to provide a quiet and handy little room, the counter, which stretched across the room, was divided, one-third being carried forward eleven feet with the addition of a short side counter, which enabled us to build a room quite large enough for the purpose.

Before this alteration we issued about 200 volumes per annum for use in the reading room; we now average about 1,600. On the top of the counters were placed open bookshelves, in which a fresh selection of reference books is exhibited each fortnight. In this way a resident can, in course of time, examine every book in the library. This measure has had an effect on the issues of the more solid literature, and, up to the present, no books have been lost by its introduction.

For the convenience of fiction readers, a similar plan is followed by placing assortments of novels on the issuing counter once a fortnight, in racks holding about ninety. This has proved a good thing in many ways, both to borrowers and staff. The borrowers get all the satisfaction that can be derived from the open access system, by being able to see the style and contents of a book before borrowing it. They are not so liable to be deceived by a poor book with a taking title—for such is the only description applicable to some novels—while books with vague titles have a much better chance of being taken out. The

old stock is much better used, and the demand for the newest novels not so keen ; while the work of the staff is very much lessened by being confined to the point of issue.

The remark sometimes made by borrowers, that many of the old books are much better than some of the new ones, has a great amount of truth in it, and in order to obtain as much money as possible to spend on books of a solid character, we make full use of the plan of fostering old literature, so far as fiction is concerned.

Our small income of £260 compels us to make the best possible use of every book which we already have, whether fiction or reference work. One way of accomplishing this has been by the compilation of a Card Index to the Contents of Books. It is arranged on a plan similar to Cotgreave's "Contents-Subject Index," each card giving every known book or article in the library dealing with specific subjects. If a borrower comes on a busy night and wishes to know what we have dealing with "Temperance," "Savonarola," "Psychology," "Women's Rights," &c.—in fact, anything which is not large enough to require a special catalogue—he can see at once a list of everything we can offer him, whether in the form of complete books or valuable articles hidden away in books on other topics.

When commencing this, we first wrote cards for the most urgently wanted subjects, and we are now going through the library in a more systematic manner. This Card-Index will be a great economiser of labour in the future, as, after spending considerable time in hunting up information for a borrower, a card can be made out, and the search for that subject is duly recorded, and never afterwards costs any time or trouble to find again.

For larger and more important sections, and to enable us to get over the difficulty of providing a quick, handy, and always up-to-date catalogue, we have prepared type-written, classified catalogues, the leaves of which are so arranged that additions can be made to any section at any time.

Anyone interested in the various trades of the town, such as mechanical or electrical engineering, textile manufactures, joinery and building trades, &c., or in music, art, or any subject taught at the technical school, can now see at once everything the library can offer. Each catalogue has a contents-index at the end, where the borrower is not only referred to the page giving a complete list of the books on the subject, but is also given a list of all the valuable articles which may be hidden away in apparently irrelevant books.

When arranging and typewriting, care is taken to leave space at the end of each section, in order that additions may be entered with the typewriter, thereby enabling the catalogue to be kept always up to date.

For the benefit of fiction readers, a catalogue of all the historical novels and tales in the library has been compiled, from Nield and other sources, and arranged on a plan similar to Nield's book. We also

compiled from the *Library World*, &c., a catalogue of about 300 sequels and series in the library. Both these lists have far more than repaid the labour and cost of their compilation. The advantage of these innovations may be realized on remembering that five years ago a borrower had only an ordinary dictionary catalogue, a supplement, and a manuscript catalogue to assist him, and invariably had to spend a considerable amount of time in order to ascertain the full resources of the library on any subject.

To keep the various advantages and improvements of the library before the public, it is an excellent plan to be on good terms with the local press. Both local papers sympathise with the library movement in Bingley, and give every assistance possible. Whenever a new catalogue is issued, they criticise it and point out its advantages, and in other ways keep the library before the public. They have also published special lists on such subjects as the town of Bingley, "Gardening," "Agriculture," "Music," "Protection and Free Trade," "Detective Tales," and other lists dealing with matters of local or national importance. They also print lists of all additions to the library and notice our various library reports. Whenever the papers published any of the lists just named, they also stated that the books would be on exhibition on the open shelves during the ensuing fortnight, and invited ratepayers to go and examine them.

In these open shelves are exhibited all the books dealing with the various trades of the town, taking each separately. Prior to these exhibitions on open shelves, typed notices were placed in the workshops inviting the workers to come and examine the books on their respective trades.

Our highest expectations have been surpassed by the manner in which these exhibitions have been appreciated, especially by the apprentices; and we are now going further by placing in the workshops typed lists of all the books in the library likely to be of use.

In order to keep the library in touch with the various societies and institutions of the town, type-written classified catalogues of the books suitable for each place have been prepared and placed where the members can easily consult them.

For the Technical School a catalogue was arranged of every book in the library suitable for each class. For the Literary and Debating Society, the Liberal and Conservative Clubs, one on "Sociology" has been compiled, on a modified arrangement of Dewey's "Sociology," Section 300. For the Musical Union was prepared a music catalogue, with an index to all the songs in the library at the end. These catalogues are always kept up to date, and when additions are made the lists are called in, and the new books entered under their classes. By the foregoing methods the heavy expense of catalogue-printing is saved, and the catalogues are always up to date.

With regard to the reading-room, each monthly magazine is indexed as it arrives, and notes of the articles and short stories are

made, and these are posted in a prominent position, forming a list of all the magazines taken, with the contents of each. This enables a busy man to see at once if there are any articles of value to him without the trouble of special examination.

In special matters such as the Boer War and the present war in the East, maps have been placed in the most prominent positions, with lists of books in the library dealing with the various countries, which state that the books are on the open shelves for borrowing or reference.

In order to cement the whole of the work together, and get the most out of the labour expended, I have not found a more useful way than compiling essays on the different methods of using the library, and reading them before the various adult classes, societies, and clubs of the town. This breaks down the red-tapish feeling so common in connection with libraries, and I have in this way encouraged several to come to the library, who never before took advantage of the books.

It is one of the duties of a progressive librarian to be interested in the objects and aims of the various societies, classes, and clubs of his town. If he can only drop in once a year, or in any way be kept in touch with them, so that he is ever ready to adapt his library to the needs of each, he will in this way be doing a work which cannot fail to have an enormously beneficial effect on the town, the library, and his own official standing.

The librarian of a small library has also many favourable opportunities of studying his juvenile borrowers and observing their various tastes. Finding that several subscribers to the Technical Schools paid their subscriptions, but did not make use of their right to send a student to the classes free of charge, I obtained a list of these, and was able to introduce about a dozen lads to the classes. This is easily done, at no cost of time or labour save procuring the subscribers' names from the secretary, and each year giving him my list of names to place before the committee.

I am aware that this may be regarded as hardly the work of a librarian, but when I consider the valuable opportunities opened out to these students by such simple means, I become proof against anything that indifferent quibblers may say. These, and the points which I have previously enumerated, are some of the things which will get us the rate limit removed, by convincing the public of the practical value of libraries, and will settle in the best way the vexed questions of salaries and social recognition.

Let us each determine to till the ground we already have to the very utmost of its productiveness—get everything out of it that it is capable of giving—and I am confident that we can then obtain from the public anything making for improvement and extension in every direction which is reasonable.

ORCHESTRAL MUSIC IN LIBRARIES.

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THE appearance of a "Souvenir of the 500th Symphony Concert given at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth," may be considered an occasion on which to congratulate Bournemouth and Mr. Dan Godfrey, the conductor, on the success of a notable enterprise. The "Souvenir" takes the form of a list of works performed between 1895 and 1903, and it includes symphonies, overtures, concertos, and other instrumental compositions by most of the great musicians, and many important works which were performed for the first time in this country at Bournemouth. In all, 891 works were performed, of which 44 were first performances. It should be noted that, in connection with these famous concerts of high-class music, the Bournemouth Public Library authorities have not been remiss in the duty of providing the scores of many of the works performed, and we believe that in the work of enabling orchestral music to be intelligently followed and understood by musical students, the Bournemouth Library has materially assisted. Other Public Libraries have been wise in providing full orchestral scores for the use of musical students, and it is very important that all libraries should take part in the same work. It is only possible for students to realize the tone of instruments and to appreciate combinations and effects, by having the full scores before them when orchestral works are being performed. Purely abstract music has no aids to intelligent comprehension of its meaning and construction, like the drama or vocal music, and it is necessary, therefore, that scores should be provided so that the grouping of instruments and mechanism of the composition can be understood. This method of following an instrumental composition does not interfere in any degree with its enjoyment as a work of art, any more than the words, or acting and scenery interfere with the power to appreciate a play or an anthem; therefore, no question can arise as to the undesirability of providing orchestral scores. The only hindrance to full æsthetic enjoyment of music thus followed with its text, is the occasional liability of the novice to lose the place, and get left behind in the allegro! Many of the larger libraries possess collections of full scores, and at Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Finsbury, and elsewhere, good musical departments of this kind will be found. There is nothing very formidable in the matter, though some librarians are rather frightened at the comparatively heavy cost of modern copyright works in full score. No doubt this is true, but the fact need not prevent every library, however small, from procuring suitable and handy editions of the celebrated classical works which usually form the backbone of every orchestral concert or festival. Nearly 100 miniature scores of symphonies, overtures, concertos, and chamber music like quintets and quartets are published at prices ranging from 6d. to 4s., and there is thus no serious obstacle in the way of any library equipping itself with a collection of representative orchestral works. The

miniature scores in question are no larger than an ordinary crown octavo novel, most of them, of course, much thinner, and they are published by Mr. E. Donajowski, of Castle Street, London, W. The whole of Beethoven's nine great symphonies can be obtained in this edition for 20s., and can be had separately at prices ranging from 1s. for No. 1 in C; 2s. 6d. "Eroica," 2s. "Pastorale" to 4s. for the "Choral." A selection of symphonies by Haydn, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Schubert, Schumann, and Tschaikowsky can also be obtained, and most of the celebrated overtures by Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Rossini, Wagner, Weber and many others, as well as all the best-known quartets and smaller instrumental pieces. The printing of the edition, though necessarily small, is clear, and the accuracy of the text is also remarkable. The importance of orchestral music is increasing so greatly, if, indeed, it has not in some cases practically ousted concerted vocal music, that Public Libraries, which cater for every class of the people, should take an early opportunity of procuring a selection of these scores, if necessary even at the expense of the fiction stock, in order to keep abreast of the times and to come in line with those libraries which give music its rightful place as an important branch of the book world.



LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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AN influential committee has been formed to raise funds and carry out certain work as a permanent memorial to the late Robert **Proctor**, whose valuable bibliographical labours came to such an untimely end. The executive committee propose, as the best means of honouring the memory of Robert Proctor:—1. The collection and publication in one volume of all his bibliographical essays and papers, with a memoir prefixed. 2. The preparation for press, with liberal illustration, of the three remaining sections of his Index of Early Printed Books, comprising the books in the British Museum printed in Italy, France, &c., from 1501 to 1520. The committee will be glad to receive donations, either in single sums or in the form of annual subscriptions for four years. It is proposed that all donors of not less than £1 shall receive the memorial volume, and negotiations will be opened with the publishers to enable subscribers to purchase the volumes of the Index at a reduced rate. Cheques may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. H. R. Tedder, Athenæum, Pall Mall, London, S.W., or to the account of the "Proctor Memorial Fund" at Messrs. Barclay's Bank, 1, Pall Mall East.

THE **Southwark** Borough Council have been considering ways and means for the maintenance of the proposed fifth library in the borough. Lord Llangattock has promised a site, and it is believed that Mr. Carnegie will be willing to provide a building. Application was made

to Mr. Carnegie for assistance some time ago, but it is understood that he could not see his way to provide a library unless it was made quite clear to him that the Council could adequately maintain it. The Council, at its meeting on June 8th last, received a report from the special committee appointed to make recommendations to the Council. These include a complete re-organization of the staffs of the other four libraries, viz., St. Saviour's, Passmore Edwards', Newington and Christ Church. The proposals of the committee were adopted. We regret to find that they include the abolition of the offices of Mr. Roberts, at St. Saviour's, and Mr. Aldred, at Passmore Edwards' Library. The report of the committee drew attention to the admirable services rendered by both these gentlemen, and regretted that there appeared to be no other way for maintaining the proposed new library than by the course suggested. The proposed changes will not come into effect until June next year. The Council added a special clause to the report of the committee that compensation, as provided under the London Government Act, should be paid to the officers whose services are to be dispensed with, provided that the Treasury agree. We hope that the Southwark Council will deal with the officers in as generous a manner as possible, and that no obstacle to adequate compensation will be interposed by the Treasury. The work of both Messrs. Roberts and Aldred is well-known to readers of this and other periodicals, and we hope before long to see them once more in positions of responsibility and permanence.

THE following statement appeared in the *Review of Reviews* for June last, and it is certain that every librarian will lament with Mr. **Stead**, that such a piece of valuable and indispensable work should have to be discontinued because of the lack of adequate support:—"It is with sincere regret that I have to announce that the publication of the 'Annual Index to Periodicals,' which has been issued in connection with the *Review of Reviews* for thirteen years (1890-1902 inclusive), will be discontinued. The work, which was undertaken as a labour of love, and as a mode of acknowledging my indebtedness to the periodicals reviewed in the *Review of Reviews*, has, unfortunately, never met with the appreciation which it merited from the general reading public. The keepers of Public Libraries where the Index is known have been loud in its praise, and writers, students and others who have had occasion to use it in the libraries have acknowledged in the warmest terms the invaluable help they have received from its pages. But, I need hardly say, the number of libraries and other institutions which are subscribers has never been sufficient to cover the expense. So far from this being the case, the production of this Index from first to last has entailed on me a total loss of about five thousand pounds. My sincere thanks are due to Miss Hetherington and her assistants, without whose zeal, intelligence and industry the Index could never have been produced. Miss Hetherington also desires to take this occasion to acknowledge with gratitude the opportunity which the 'Annual Index to Periodicals' has afforded her of compiling and arranging an Index on so large a scale in accordance with her views,

and thanks the librarians and others for all their kind interest in her work." Mr. Stead appeals for suggestions as to continuing the work on some other line, and we shall be glad to publish any which may be received. We are afraid, however, that the active support of the Public Libraries of the country cannot be relied upon for any bibliographical enterprise, and we have pointed out, over and over again, that library and bibliographical text-books and tools are about the last things that certain libraries and committees will buy.

THE Duchess of **Devonshire** will open the Technical Institute and Public Library, erected at Eastbourne at a cost of over £40,000. It is intended to present the freedom of the borough to Dr. Carnegie, who, it may be remembered, gave £10,000 towards the expenses.

MR. JESSE **Barraclough**, of Wibsey, has been appointed librarian of the new free library at Wibsey, now ready for public use.

MR. W. H. **Berry**, of Oldham, has been appointed Chief Librarian and Curator of Oldham, at a salary of £150 per year, in succession to Mr. R. Bateman, whose change to Manchester was announced in our last number.

MR. B. R. **Hill**, Chief Librarian of Sunderland, has resigned that position in order to carry on a bookdealer's business in Newcastle.

MR. JAMES C. **Ewing** has been made Chief Librarian of Baillie's Institution, Glasgow, in succession to Mr. W. Simpson. There were fifty applicants. Mr. Ewing was previously a principal assistant in the Mitchell Library, and is well known as the chief authority on the writings and bibliography of Burns.

THE foundation-stone of the **Mansfield** Public Library was laid, on July 6th, by Mrs. A. B. Markham, wife of the member for the division. It will be recalled that Dr. Carnegie gave £3,500, and the Duke of Portland a site.

THE **Withernsea** Urban Council (Hull) have formed a committee to consider the question of a Public Library. Councillor Brookes has offered to place his books at the disposal of the public if it is decided to have a library.

WE learn with regret of the death of Mr. **Falconer**, recently appointed librarian of the Tain Carnegie Free Library, which took place on July 13th. Death was due to the bursting of a blood vessel.

THE foundation-stone of the **Tinsley** Free Library was laid on Saturday, July 9th, by Sir Wm. Holland, M.P., towards which Mr. Carnegie gave £1,500.

THE foundation-stone of the **Melton Mowbray** Free Library was laid on July 21st, by Mr. Wm. Willcox, chairman of the committee.

ON Saturday, July 16th, the old **Harrogate** Public Library was sold by auction.

ON July 14th, the **Cobbe Library** at Barmouth was formally opened by Sir Lewis Morris. The Barmouth library is the outcome of an offer made by Miss Frances Power Cobbe three years ago, to bequeath her valuable library to that town, on condition that suitable accommodation was provided for it.

DR. CARNEGIE has offered £7,000 to **Nelson** (Manchester) for a free library; £7,500 to **Accrington**; £7,000 to **Southwark**; £1,500 to **Llanturt Yardre** (suburb of Pontypridd); £2,000 to **Uxbridge**; £800 to **Ayscoughfee**; £3,000 to **Rhyl**; £1,500 to **Ashby** (near Scunthorpe); £6,380 to **Heywood**; £3,500 to **Cheshunt**.

THE contract has been placed for building the Carnegie Library at **Gainsborough**.

THE **Glasgow** Corporation have received from Dr. Carnegie the sum of £26,000, the first instalment of the £100,000 promised.



LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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CATALOGUES.

Hereford Free Library. Additions to Lending Department, 1904. pp. 8. 8vo. 9" x 5½". Price one penny.

An author list in two parts: fiction and non-fiction.

Library of Congress. Biblioteca Filipina. Por T. H. Pardo de Tavera. pp. 439. 4to. 1903.

This is the promised complementary volume to the "List of Books on the Philippine Islands" recently issued. The present volume, which is entirely in Spanish, is the result of many years' work, and was intended to be a complete bibliography of the islands. The arrangement is mainly alphabetical, but a few entries have been grouped under important subjects.

Select List of References on Chinese Immigration. Compiled under the direction of A. P. C. Griffin. pp. 31. 4to. 1904.

In three parts: books, government publications, and articles in periodicals. The arrangement of the first part is alphabetical, and the government publications and articles are arranged chronologically.

Rugby Public Library. Catalogue of Books in the Lending and Reference Departments. Compiled by the Librarian, J. W. Kenning. pp. 6 + 221. 8vo. 8" x 5½". [1904.] Price threepence.

Entries under author and subject, arranged in nine main classes. Dates of publication are given under every entry. Although occasionally inaccurate, it is, on the whole, a well-compiled catalogue. The only point that calls for special notice is the somewhat confusing punctuation between the author's name and the title, combined with the spacing, as in

Long. James; Dairy Farm. 1889.

St. Bride Foundation Institute. Supplement to the Catalogue of the General Library. Compiled by F. W. T. Lange, Librarian. pp. 8+110. 8vo. $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5\frac{1}{2}''$. 1904.

A dictionary catalogue with occasional annotations. The date of publication is given under all entries. Separate lists are given to Magazines, Fiction, and Additions to Reference Library.

Subject-List of Works on Electricity, Magnetism, and Electro-technics in the Library of the **Patent Office**. London: H.M. Stationery Office. 1904. pp. 286. No. 14 of the Patent Office Library Series, and No. 11 of the Bibliographical Series.

A catalogue, similar in arrangement and style to the other useful lists issued by Mr. Hulme, and containing the alphabetical series of class-headings, plus the key to the classification of headings.

Metropolitan Borough of Stepney Public Libraries, Whitechapel Library. Catalogue of the books in the lending and reference departments. Section 2—Science, Arts, Business Training . . . Languages. Compiled under the direction of A. Cawthorne, Borough Librarian, by Wm. Weare, District Librarian. London. 1904. pp. viii. + 174. Price 3d.

A useful Class-List, with subjects arranged in alphabetical order, and resembling in many details the Patent Office Library Lists, and the systematic Class-Lists issued by many other libraries. There are a large number of useful analytics, and the preface states that a complete author and title catalogue is kept in MS. form on cards at the central library. The catalogue is compiled carefully on the lines laid down in the preface, but there are, of course, the inevitable weak places. No topical index is provided, and the result is that under such headings as "England Language," one has to read over nearly 100 titles to ascertain what the library contains on Grammar, Synonyms, History of language, Prosody, &c., while as a portion of Section IV., yet to be published, is apparently to be devoted to Philology, it is difficult to understand how any reader is to find assembled at one place, the literature possessed by the library on this topic. Why the writing and speaking of languages should be considered as something apart from Philology it is hard to grasp. In a new edition we suggest that under large subject-headings, related topics should be grouped together, so that under Fine Arts, for example, one can find at once everything possessed by the library on Æsthetics, National Art, Practice, &c., without having to read over the whole of a long entry. Subjects as well as classes require sub-division, and we believe it will be found, in

the long run, that systematic classification plus adequate alphabetical indexes are superior to any compromise such as this. The same plan has been tried before again and again, on grounds of economy, but we have never seen a quite satisfactory example of an alphabetical topic-catalogue. There are occasional annotations in this Whitechapel catalogue, and the compilation is otherwise very good.

REPORTS.

Ayr, eleventh report, 1903-04. Stock 20,656 volumes; borrowers 2,347; volumes issued 92,347 (lending 86,583, reference 5,764), last year 90,470. The Committee have during the year given public access to a selected number of books, and "many readers have expressed their appreciation of the change." The work of reorganising the reference department has been continued. A course of lectures has been given, and has proved a great success.

Barry, 1903-4. Stock 6,664 volumes; borrowers 2,764; volumes issued 66,299 (lending 62,191, reference 4,108), last year 64,748. Contracts for the erection of a new central library and two reading-rooms are in hand. The school libraries scheme has worked satisfactorily, but, owing to the want of a means of conveying books to the schools, only about half can be supplied at present. The Committee have sent their librarian on a tour of inspection round the principal libraries of England—a plan that may be recommended to other library authorities.

Bebington, Mayer Trust, 1903-04. Borrowers 702; volumes issued 16,499, last year 16,164. A card catalogue has been kept up to date, and for the past few years a sum of money has been put aside for the printing of a supplementary catalogue, which will be issued shortly. A course of twelve lectures has been given.

Birmingham (ten branches), forty-second report, 1903-04. Stock 289,313 volumes; borrowers 31,461; volumes issued 1,379,472 (lending 1,007,973, reference 371,499), last year 1,343,510. These figures do not include books on open shelves; if they were included the issue would rise to 2,344,472. Newsroom readers are estimated at over 8,000,000. A new system of heating has been installed at the central library, which reduces the danger from fire to a minimum, and a fire-resisting safe, for the protection of the Shakespeare folios, has been provided. The storage capacity of the reference library is being rapidly exhausted, and the question of providing additional space will shortly have to be considered. A map of the town showing positions of libraries is supplied.

Chicago, John Crerar Library, ninth report, 1903. Stock 103,291 volumes; volumes issued 190,000. Want of space is beginning to be felt, and as the lease of the present quarters expires in the spring, the question of remaining in them will come up. The use of the library has increased all round, but the increase has been greatest in calls for books from the stack. Nearly 1,200 borrowers have applied for admis-

sion direct to the shelves. The distribution of catalogue cards has been continued, and 71,144 cards have been received in exchange from the Library of Congress. The adoption of the A.L.A. cataloguing rules has thrown all the work of the cataloguing department into confusion. The explanation given is that "the rules as printed are insufficient and in some cases inconsistent, and application to the Library of Congress for their interpretation did not always obtain definite information. In some cases the library has had to make its own interpretation, and in others to fall back upon its old rules."

Report of the Librarian of Congress for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1903. Washington: Government Printing Office. 1903. 8°. 600 pp.

A full and interesting report, covering all the departments and activities of the Congressional Library as regards Copyright, Card distribution, Cataloguing, Binding, &c. It is useful to note that the cost of supplying printed cards for new books amounts to four cents, or 2d. per book. Pages 109 to 436 are devoted to a "Select List of Recent Purchases" in classified order, and at the end is an important "Report of the Register of Copyrights in Copyright Legislation," extending to nearly 200 pages, in which are summarized the laws and statutes of every country in the world.

Croydon (two branches), fifteenth report, 1903-04. Stock 50,483 volumes; borrowers 13,536; volumes issued 448,945 (lending 390,795, reference 58,150), last year 405,233. The use of the library has increased in all departments, the increase in issue being over 42,000. The year has witnessed some important developments, notably that of inter-library loans and discharges. Under the new arrangements, a borrower at one library can obtain a book from any of the others within half-an-hour. This is done by means of a telephone service and the co-operation of the electric tramways. A borrower may also obtain a book from one library, and return it to any of the others that may be convenient. Owing to the control of technical moneys passing over to the Education Committee, only half of the usual grant has been received this year. The circulating collection of photographs has been largely increased, and the work of the photographic survey of Surrey, of which the librarian is curator, has gone on. Two "curve" diagrams are given, showing increase in issue and decrease in fiction percentage. A plan of the central reference library is also supplied. The librarian's report of the annual meeting of the Library Association at Leeds is appended.

Hanley, seventh report, 1903-04. Stock, 15,588 volumes; borrowers 2,164; volumes issued 105,168 (lending 62,242, reference 15,170, juvenile 25,756), last year 101,495. By means of show-cases and book-holders on the counter, the attention of borrowers has been drawn to non-fictional books that might otherwise have escaped notice. Some useful work has also been done in connection with the University Extension Lectures.

Hereford, thirty-second report, 1903-04. Stock 14,287; volumes issued 68,052 (lending 56,206, reference 11,846). The Herefordshire Photographic Society have presented the first instalment of their survey, consisting of 237 photographs, to the reference library. Two hundred pounds have been received as a legacy from a Hereford resident, and 500 volumes have been added from the book club.

Leyton, eleventh report, 1903-04. Stock 20,372; borrowers 5,856; volumes issued 189,198, last year 186,398. £8,000 have been promised from Dr. Carnegie on condition that the library rate be increased by $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the £. The work with the school children has been very successful, nearly 50,000 volumes being issued from the "Juvenile" library.

Lincoln, tenth report, 1903-04. Volumes issued 82,187 (lending 73,188, reference 8,999), last year 79,177. The fiction percentage has dropped to 46.4. The age limit has been reduced from 14 to 12 years, and the school children have made abundant use of the privilege of borrowing books. A selection of French literature has been placed in the lending library, and has been extensively used.

Nottingham (five branches, eight reading rooms), 1903-04. Stock 109,877 volumes; volumes issued 398,830 (lending 327,856, reference 70,974), last year 418,732. A course of "Half-Hour Talks" has been given for the fourteenth consecutive season, and has proved successful.

Rugby, 1903-04. Borrowers 546; volumes issued 35,903 (lending 33,916, reference 1,987), last year 32,933.

Tynemouth, thirty-fourth report, 1903-04. Stock 27,731 volumes; borrowers 3,950; volumes issued 109,516 (lending 104,394, reference 5,122), last year 99,008. 249 volumes from the Book Club have been added during the year in addition to the ordinary purchases. To attract attention to the recent additions, an "open" bookcase outside the counter, a card catalogue, and annotated quarterly lists in the local papers, have been employed. Want of space is badly felt, but no further extensions are possible on the present site. Appended is the sub-librarian's report of the Library Association meeting at Leeds.

BULLETINS.

Bootle. *Quarterly Journal.* Notes on books; Museum notes; Free libraries and public needs; In the magazine room; The geological diagrams; Sir William B. Forwood on libraries; Summaries of important educational papers, 5; Recent additions. We think this journal would be made even more useful if the list of additions were given more prominence and annotated, even at the sacrifice of some of the other matter.

Brooklyn. *Co-operative Bulletin.* Contains the usual list of additions.

Croydon. *The Reader's Index.* The reader's note-book, 5; English essayists; Annotated list of additions; Special catalogue of circulating collection of photographs on wood-carving; Reading list on radium. This number maintains the high standard of previous ones, and is interesting as displaying most of their special features.

West Ham. *Library Notes.* The co-operative movement in England; List of books on co-operation; Books recently added; Articles in magazines and reviews. The list of articles arranged alphabetically under subjects is a very useful feature that might with advantage be copied by other library magazines.

Willesden Green. *Opening of Public Library, Kensal Rise.* An illustrated programme of the opening ceremony of May 13th.

Scheme of Library Service. Brooklyn Public Library. Adopted 1904. Brooklyn, N.Y. 1904. pp. 9.

A series of regulations for appointments, promotions and removals of the library staff at Brooklyn, with full particulars as to grades of service, examinations, apprentices, salaries and precedence. It is interesting to note that branch librarians receive \$840 (about £170), and rise to \$1,500 (£300) per annum; senior assistants receive \$660 (£132), rising to \$780 (£156); junior assistants \$480 (£96), rising to \$600 (£120) per annum; and apprentices receive nothing, save their training, which occupies apparently about seven months. This scale of salaries compares very favourably with the average payments for similar positions in this country. No particulars are given regarding the salaries, &c., of the non-graded service, consisting of chief librarian, assistant-librarian, reference librarian, various superintendents of departments, and the librarian's secretary.



THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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MR. James Duff Brown contributes the article to the June *Library Assistant*. He deals with the important subject of "Catalogue Annotations," and gives a code of rules that are worth reprinting:—

1.—No title-page which is not thoroughly self-explanatory should be transcribed as a catalogue-entry, without being descriptively annotated.

2.—Such descriptive annotation should extend to authorships, and means should be employed for distinguishing from each other authors of the same name and the users of similar pseudonyms.

3.—The scope, or range of every book, where not clearly expressed on a title-page, should be briefly indicated, and, if possible, the author's standpoint, or attitude towards a particular question, should be noted. For example, in biological works, it is vital to the present-day student to have it clearly noted whether a book on zoology is written on evolutionary or "special creation" lines. The scientific and sentimental-conventional standpoints should always be noted, otherwise readers will be seriously misled by inadequate titles.

4.—The period covered in every history, book of travel, biography or other record of a similar kind should be noted, and dates should be added to books of travel when the date of publication differs widely from the date when the travels were accomplished. This is even more important as regards the exact indication of historical periods.

5.—The dates of original publication should always be added to entries of reprints of old books, either as a brief addition to the title-transcript, within brackets, or as a note at the end of the entry.

6.—Very fanciful or vague titles should be translated or explained, when in positions where the classification or subject-heading does not do so.

7.—The contents of collected works should always be set out under the author entry, and should also be entered as subject entries whenever necessary. In many recent catalogues, set-out entries are made under authors' names, but rarely at the subjects, where they would be much more useful.

8.—Anything in the way of criticism should be avoided in the writing of annotations; but the use of appreciative adjectives, like "good," "complete," "exhaustive," are not necessarily to be considered as transgressions of this rule.

Mr. P. E. Lewin concludes his paper on "Records and Research Work," and the number concludes with the ninth annual report of the Association.

The June *Library Association Record* opens with a comprehensive survey of "Public Library Bye-laws and Regulations," by Mr. E. R. Norris Mathews. His conclusion is that "the fewer and simpler the rules, the more likely are the people to read and observe them." An interesting history of "Monastic Libraries" by Mr. Alfred Morgan follows. According to St. Benedict's conception, study or reading was to form a part, and a large part, of each monk's accustomed task, and, as reading implies the existence of books, every properly constituted monastery must from the first have looked to the formation of such libraries as were then possible as a matter of primary importance. Besides outlining the history of the libraries, the writer gives some particulars of the arrangement of the books, and the duties of the librarian. Mr. R. A. Peddie selects the best sociological books of 1902, and the number concludes with the usual departments.

The *Library Journal* for June is not so practical as usual. G. F. Bowerman gives a "Survey of the Religious and Ethical Work of Libraries," and Miss M. W. Nicholl a note on the College Library in Nebraska. Julia I. Pettee writes on the cataloguing and preserving of Dissertations and Program Literature—a class of literature not likely to trouble the ordinary library. A summary of Mr. Savage's paper on Co-operative Bookbuying, which appeared in the *Record*, is also given.

To the May *Literary Collector* C. H. Lincoln contributes an article on "Some Manuscripts of Early Presidents." Adrian H. Joline sketches the literary life of William Harrison Ainsworth, and the usual departments conclude the number.



THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

SCIENCE AND ART.

Goodchild (G. F.) and C. F. **Tweney**, editors. A Technological and scientific dictionary. London: George Newnes, Ltd. [1904.] 8°, 10", parts 1-3, *illust.* Price 1s. per part, net.

Dictionary of terms used in Science, Arts, Manufacture, Heraldry, Archæology, and all related subjects, with a number of special articles on the more important subjects.

Part 3 of this useful work has reached "Electric Lighting" in the alphabet, and so far promises to be an extremely interesting and careful production. The illustrations are numerous, and the longer articles are sometimes of considerable importance. Mr. C. F. Tweney, one of the associate editors, will be remembered as having been for many years librarian of the Putney Public Library, which is housed in a building erected by Sir George Newnes. Mr. Tweney has given up librarianship for, we hope, the more lucrative work of literature.

Rendle (Alfred B.). The Classification of flowering plants. Vol. 1, Gymnosperms and Monocotyledons. Cambridge: University Press. [1904.] 8°, 8½", pp. xiv. + 404, *illust.* Price 10s. 6d. net.

A systematic classification based on the method of Adolf Engler, in which each class and order are fully described and compared, with references to the chief tribes and species. In a historical introduction, descriptions are given of the leading classifications of plants, from pre-Linnaean times down through Linnæus and Jussieu to Bentham and Hooker, and Engler.

Another valuable contribution to the Cambridge Biological Series, in which we have already noticed Willis' "Flowering plants and ferns." The work of Rendle carries the classification down to the Orchidaceae, and promises, when completed, to remain the standard English work on the subject, and to displace Bentham and Hooker, which at present is recognised only by the state botanists of England.

Cunnington (Susan). The Story of Arithmetic, a short history of its origin and development. London: Swan Sonnenschein & Co., Ltd. [1904.] 8°, 7½", pp. xvi. + 240, *illustr.* Price 3s. 6d.

An account of notations, weights, measures, calendars, old arithmetic books, arithmetic in modern literature, problems, &c.

A readable and interesting work on a subject by no means so dry as it looks.

Davies (Mary). The Housewife's What's what, a hold-all of useful information for the house, with numerous recipes. London: T. Fisher Unwin. [1904.] 8°, 8", pp. vi. + 434. Price 6s. net.

A series of articles on housekeeping, cookery, medicines, woman's work, games, clubs, laundry work, &c., arranged in alphabetical order, with a supplementary dictionary of practical recipes.

Kilburn (N.). The Story of chamber music. London: Walter Scott Publishing Co., Ltd. [1904.] 8°, 7", pp. xvi. + 252, *illustr.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

A history of the string quartet and other combinations of musical instruments, from the 17th century to the present time, with specimens of scores, and chapters on special composers like Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Richard Strauss, &c. A volume of the "Music-Story Series."

Strange (Edward F.). Japanese Illustration, a history of the arts of wood-cutting and colour printing in Japan. London: George Bell and Sons. [1904.] 8°, 8½", pp. xxvi. + 156, *illustr.* Price 6s. net.

Second edition, considerably revised, of a work first published in 1896. Deals with Japanese design and book-illustration from the 17th century to the present day, with examples of colour-printing, and chapters on Hokusai, and other well-known artists.

Ditchfield (P. H.). English Gothic architecture. London: Dent and Co. [1904.] 8°, 6", pp. 130, *illustr.* Price 1s. net.

An elementary account of the development of Gothic architecture, comprising Anglo-Saxon, Anglo-Norman, Early English, Decorated, and Perpendicular styles, chiefly as illustrated in ecclesiastical buildings. Contains a glossary.

SOCIAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

Ely (Richard T.), and George R. **Wicker**. Elementary principles of Economics, together with a short sketch of economic history. New York: Macmillan & Co., 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 388. Price 6s. net.

Chapters on Economic history, consumption, production, exchange, money, distribution, public finance, &c., with a series of suggestions of subjects for essays and discussions, and courses of reading. Each chapter is provided with a short bibliography of the chief authorities on the subject.

A handy and useful work, which presents the main facts of political economy in a simple and straightforward manner

Philpott (Hugh B.). London at school, the story of the School Board. [1870-1904.] London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. xx. + 314. Price 6s. [NO INDEX].

History of the formation and work of the London School Board, during its 34 years' existence, with chapters on special departments and questions, like infant schools, compulsory attendance, religious instruction, physical training, evening continuation schools, teachers and training, industrial schools, schools for the defective, &c.

Warren (Algernon). Commercial Travelling, its features, past and present. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 344. Price 6s.

History, qualifications, responsibilities, usages, institutions, and other features of commercial travelling.

A useful and interesting work on an important subject, which has been strangely neglected in English literature. It gives a series of valuable hints on commercial travelling, and combines in a pleasant and instructive fashion the practical and gossiping sides of a very fascinating topic.

Rappoport (A. S.). A Primer of Philosophy. London: John Murray, 1904. 8°, 6½", pp. vi. + 118. Price 1s. net.

The elements of Metaphysics, Psychology, Logic, Æsthetics, Ethics, Sociology, and schools of thought, with a list of authorities.

An easy, clear, and well-condensed introduction to the study of philosophy in its chief branches.

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY.

Boutmy (Emile). The English people, a study of their political psychology. Translated from the French by E. English, with an introduction by E. C. Bodley. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1904. 8°, 8¼", pp. xxxvi. + 332. Price 7s. 6d.

A study of English national character from a French point of view, in which the subject is considered from various physical, political, moral and racial standpoints.

Another example of careful and subtle analysis of national character, for which we are indebted to various French authors. This one is full of sound observation and witty, yet philosophical, passages, in which the British races are passed in review in a genial and, on the whole, appreciative and kindly manner.

Russell (Israel C.). North America. London: Henry Frowde [Oxford University Press]. [1904.] 8°, 9", pp. viii. + 436, *maps, diagrams*. Price 7s. 6d. net.

A volume of the "Regions of the World" series, edited by Mr. H. J. Mackinder, dealing with the hydrography, topography, climate, plant-life, animal life, geology, aborigines and political geography of North America, from the Arctic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico. Gives lists of authorities for each subject.

A valuable contribution to the literature of North American physiography and political geography, well illustrated, and put out in the high-class style associated with the other works of the same series and publishers.

Elson (Henry William). History of the United States of America. New York: The Macmillan Co. [1904.] 8°, 8", pp. xxxiv. + 912 and xl., *col. maps, plans*. Price 10s. 6d.

A complete history from Columbus to the present date, with chapters on the Indian tribes, early explorations, industrial progress, expansion, a chronological table, &c.

One of the best and most complete single-volume histories of the United States we have seen, and one which deserves a place on the shelves of every Public Library. An immense body of facts is dealt with, and their presentation is orderly and well-expressed. In addition to a full index, there is also a bibliography, as well as a series of "suggestions to the reader," in the form of reading lists of important books. By the way, it is not correct to speak of "Flamborough Head, Scotland," as is done on p. 295. There are other minor blunders here and there.

Motley (John Lothrop). The Rise of the Dutch Republic. London: George Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 6½". 3 vols. Price 6s. net.

A reprint, with biography of Motley by Moncure D. Conway, of a history first published in 1856. It deals with the period of the history of the Netherlands from 1555-84.

A neat and serviceable reprint of the Bohn's Standard Library edition of Motley which has been added to the new "York Library" series of reprints.

BIOGRAPHY.

Benozzo Gozzoli. London: George Newnes, Ltd. [1904.] 8°, 8½", pp. xxvi. of text, and 60 of plates. Price 3s. 6d. net.
[No INDEX.]

A life of Gozzoli, the Florentine painter (1424-1498) by Hugh Stokes, with a list of his works, and of the galleries where they are preserved, together with sixty reproductions of his chief paintings. A volume of Newnes' Art Library.

McCurdy (Edward) Leonardo da Vinci. London: George Bell and Sons, 1904. 8°, 7¾", pp. xiv. + 140, *illust.* Price 5s. net.

Life of the Italian painter, sculptor and architect (1452-1519), containing a selected bibliography of works on the master, a catalogue of his pictures, and the galleries in which they are preserved, and forty-one reproductions of some of his most celebrated paintings and drawings. A volume of the "Great Masters" series, edited by G. C. Williamson.

These are two interesting additions to the art series of Messrs. Newnes and Bell, and are both handsomely produced, and worthy of a place beside the other volumes of the same series.

Ilbert (Sir Courtenay). Montesquieu. The Romanes Lecture, 1904, delivered in the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, June 4th. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1904. 8°, 9", pp. 46. Price 2s. net. [No INDEX.]

A lecture on Montesquieu, the French author (1689-1755), dealing chiefly with the "Spirit of Law" and its influence in fostering ideas of liberty.

Johnston (R. M.). Napoleon. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1904. 8°, 7¼", pp. xvi. + 248, *maps, ports.* Price 5s.

A brief, popular life of the Emperor Napoleon I., digested from larger works, with references to the principal authorities. It gives particular attention to the various campaigns, and provides occasional battle plans.

Pinnington (Edward) Sir Henry Raeburn, R.A. London: Walter Scott Publishing Co., Ltd., 1904. 8°, 7", pp. xx. + 276, *port., illust.* Price 3s. 6d.

A volume of the "Makers of British Art" series, dealing with the life and works of Raeburn (1756-1823), the Scottish portrait-painter, and giving a full catalogue of his works, with dates, a bibliography, list of prices fetched at sales, and other matter, with reproductions of thirteen portraits, including the artist's own.

A handy and well-constructed biography, giving all the facts of Raeburn's uneventful life in reasonable compass, and correcting some blunders in some earlier works.

Lambert (D. H.). *Cartæ Shakespeareanæ*. Shakespeare documents, a chronological catalogue of extant evidence relating to the life and works of William Shakespeare. London: George Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. 22 + 108. Price 3s. 6d.

Texts of every authentic legal document relating to Shakespeare, from the Baptismal register to the Burial register, including facsimiles of title-pages of plays, &c., the text of the will and entries from the registers of the Stationers' Company.

An admirable piece of work, accurately executed, and giving in small compass practically everything which the student of Shakespeare or of literature can obtain without wading through dozens of other works. The remarkable thing is that the idea of collecting these pieces of evidence was not carried out long ago. We have certainly here a book which no Public Library of any size can afford to ignore.

LITERATURE AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Robertson (John M.). What to read: suggestions for the better utilisation of Public Libraries. The substance of an address delivered before the Tyneside Sunday Lecture Society. London: Watts & Co., 1904. 8°, 8½", pp. 24. Price 4d.

A series of suggestions for profitable reading addressed to young people chiefly, but containing much good advice suitable for readers of all ages. It is a relief to come across a non-priggish and non-academic exposition of a topic which has been handled and mishandled by more writers than we care to mention. Avoiding all the usual goody-goody twaddle and empty clap-trap about reading for a certain narrow purpose—namely, to better oneself from a purely worldly standpoint—Mr. Robertson gives some sound advice, without attempting to lay down the law. For this reason we are glad to learn that he has in preparation a series of "Courses of Study" in the reading of anthropology, mythology, aesthetics, philology, &c., which will be welcome when they come.

Farrer (James Anson). Books condemned to be burnt. London: Elliot Stock, 1904. 8°, 6½", pp. xii. + 206. Price 1s. 6d. net.

Another volume of the popular edition of the "Book-lover's Library," dealing with political and religious literature which has been consigned to the common hangman for destruction because offensive in some way to the ruling authorities. A useful work, which can be commended to the special attention of library assistants

Wilson (John) *Christopher North*. Noctes Ambrosianæ, abridged by Joanna Scott Moncrieff, with an introduction by J. H. Millar. London: Isbister & Co., 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. xl. + 484. Price 3s. 6d. net.

Extracts from the series of humorous dialogues on topics of the day, which appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine*, 1822-35, in which Professor Wilson, Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd, and others are made to take a leading part. Contains a short life of Hogg, by William Wallace.

This selection differs somewhat from that prepared by John Skelton some years ago, and is a welcome edition of an evergreen classic, suitable in every respect for library use, especially in cases where Wilson's complete works are not in stock.

Scott (Sir Walter). *The Lady of the Lake*. With topography of the poem by the late Sir George Biddell Airy, and notes by Andrew Lang. With fifty full-page illustrations and a map. London: A. & C. Black, 1904. 8°, 7¾", pp. viii. + 160. Price 5s. net.

A most desirable edition of this famous classic, illustrated with numerous photographic views, and a series of water-colour drawings, reproduced in colours, by Mr. Sutton Palmer. We have never seen any edition so well calculated to bring before the reader the scenery and whole theatre of operations of the poem, and it is undoubtedly the edition which every pilgrim tourist should possess. There are other poems of Scott's which lend themselves to similar treatment, and we trust Messrs. Black will not stop short with "The Lady of the Lake."

Emerson (Ralph Waldo) Works. Vol. 1., Essays [1841-44] and Representative Men [1850]. London: George Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 6", pp. viii. + 514. Price 2s. net.

Another addition to the "York Library," designed to present Emerson's works in four handy volumes, clearly printed and revised by editors of standing. This edition has been collated and revised by Mr. George Sampson, and is everything in the way of daintiness and handiness which one could wish.



LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, 31st August—1st September, 1904.

THE provisional programme for the Conference at Newcastle has been issued, and proves to be full of interesting and varied topics, which should elicit full discussions. The social programme is also very liberal and attractive, and altogether the Newcastle meeting promises to be a memorable one. We add the chief items as set forth in the official list of Proceedings and Papers:—

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS.

TUESDAY, 30th AUGUST, 1904.

o. Preliminary Business.

1. President's Address.

2. **The Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Libraries**; by Basil Anderton, B.A., Librarian, Public Libraries, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
3. **The Elevating Influence of Public Libraries**; by Alderman Henry W. Newton, J.P., Chairman, Libraries Committee, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
4. **The Function of a Public Reference Library in relation to the Secondary and Higher Education of a Community**; by Prof. R. Mark Wright, M.A., Professor of Education, Durham College of Science, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
5. **Methods of Popularising Books other than Fiction**; by G. H. Elliott, Librarian, Free Public Library, Belfast.

WEDNESDAY, 31ST AUGUST, 1904.

Morning Session.

6. **Report of the Committee on Public Education and Public Libraries, and Discussion.**

NOTE.—*The Committee on Public Education and Public Libraries was appointed at the Conference on the Relations between Public Education and the Public Libraries, held at Leeds on 9th September, 1903, and was instructed to report to the 1904 meeting.*

Afternoon Session.—*Local Collections.*

7. **What should be Collected, and How to obtain Material**; by W. H. K. Wright, Librarian, Public Library, Plymouth.
8. **The Classification and Arrangement of Local Collections**; by R. T. Richardson, Reference Sub-Librarian, Public Libraries, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
9. **Local and County Photographic Surveys**; by T. Duckworth, Librarian, Public Library, Worcester.

THURSDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER, 1904.

Morning Session.—*Book Selection and Annotation.*

10. **Practical Accession Work**; by Septimus Pitt, Superintendent of Branches, Glasgow Public Libraries.
11. **The Principles of Annotation**; by E. A. Savage, Librarian, Public Library, Bromley.
12. **The Best Periodicals**; by J. D. Brown, Librarian, Public Libraries, Finsbury.

Afternoon Session.—1. *Librarians' Section.*

13. **Report of Committee on Cataloguing Rules**; presented by E. Wyndham Hulme, Librarian, Patent Office Library, Hon. Secretary.

2. *Committees' Section.*

14. **Report on Rate Limitation by the Rate Limitation Committee**; presented by Councillor T. C. Abbott, Chairman.
15. **Report on the Education of Library Assistants by the Education Committee**; presented by H. R. Tedder, F.S.A., Secretary and Librarian, The Athenæum, Chairman.

Best Books of 1903.

The following lists will be printed, and circulated at the meeting:—

16. **In Fiction**; by E. A. Baker, M.A., Librarian, Public Library, Wallasey.
17. **In Music**; by J. D. Brown, Librarian, Public Libraries, Finsbury.
18. **In History**; by T. W. Lyster, M.A., Librarian, National Library of Ireland.
19. **In Fine Arts**; by G. H. Palmer, B.A., Keeper, National Art Library, South Kensington.
20. **In Useful Arts**; by E. Wyndham Hulme, Librarian, Patent Office Library.
21. **In Science**; by L. W. Fulcher, B.Sc., Keeper, National Science Library, South Kensington.
22. **In Bibliography and Library Science**; by B. Kettle, Guildhall Library, City of London.

23. **In Philology, Philosophy, and Religion**; by H. Guppy, M.A., Librarian, John Rylands Library, Manchester.
24. **In Poetry**; by Anthony K. Gill, Librarian, St. Olave's Branch, Bermondsey Public Libraries.
25. **In Biography**; by H. R. Tedder, F.S.A., Librarian and Secretary, The Athenæum, London.
26. **In Sociology**; by R. A. Peddie, St. Bride Foundation Institute, London.
27. **In Travel**; by J. R. Boosé, Librarian, Royal Colonial Institute.

EXHIBITIONS.

1. An Exhibition (with the co-operation of the publishers concerned) of the **Best Books of 1903**, referred to in the papers dealing with this subject.
2. An Exhibition illustrative of **Local Collections**.
3. An Exhibition of the **World's Great Special Periodicals**, illustrating Mr. Brown's paper on "The Best Periodicals."

NORTHERN COUNTIES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE quarterly meeting of the Northern Counties' Library Association was held at Durham, on Wednesday, 22nd June, by invitation of the Senate of the University. The members present included the president (Mr. T. W. Hand, Leeds). Messrs. B. Anderton, Newcastle; E. V. Stocks, M.A., Durham; B. R. Hill, Sunderland; Councillors L. Holmes and R. Leggott, Goole; J. W. Johnson, Clerk to the Goole Urban District Council; W. J. Arrowsmith, Darlington; H. E. Johnston, Gateshead (hon. Secretary); A. Hair, Tynemouth (hon. treasurer); J. W. C. Purves, Workington; E. Bailey and A. Errington, South Shields; C. Deas, R. T. Richardson, J. Walton, W. H. Gibson, and I. Briggs, Newcastle; W. Wilson, T. Hedley and W. Graham, Gateshead; A. Fletcher, Wallsend; R. McLeannan, N. Treliving, D. Sharpouse, and A. Thackray, Leeds.

A meeting of the council was held in Bishop Cosin's Library, on the Palace Green, at 11.15 a.m., and an hour later they were joined by other members of the association. The members of the senate present were the Dean (Dr. Kitchin), Rev. J. T. Fowler, Rev. Dr. Gee, Principal Jevons, Mr. J. P. Heawood, and Rev. G. H. Godwin.

The Dean said that it was an unexpected pleasure to have the advantage of presiding over that meeting, as he did not anticipate being in Durham that day. They had a good deal of work before them, and what he had to say would be very brief. He claimed to be a librarian himself, because soon after getting his degree in 1851 the then Dean of Christ Church sent for him, and said he intended making him sub-librarian. He said the post was worth £10 a year, and told him that it would not be his duty to look into the books, but after them. He carried out the duties of his office with great zeal for three years, but he confessed that he did not learn a great deal. He had pleasure in calling upon Canon Fowler to give a description of Cosin's Library.

Canon Fowler remarked that the founder of that library was John Cosin, D.D., who in 1641 was exiled from England on charges of Romanism, being the first victim of Puritanical revenge. He spent seventeen years in Paris, and that was a season of great literary activity

on his part. On the Restoration he returned to England, and in 1659 was made Bishop of Durham, and at once set about repairing the wreck and havoc which he found in the Castle, Cathedral, and also at Auckland Castle. In 1668 he finished the building in which they were then assembled. The cost was £500, and there were few existing letters in which he did not make some mention to what he called his public library. Cosin's own books formed the nucleus of the collection. In his will he left all his books to the library for the common benefit of the clergy and those who might attend the University, the collection being valued by him at £3,000. Since then the library had received some very valuable books, including manuscripts by George Davenport, rector of Houghton-le-Spring. Several of the valuable books that had been bequeathed to the library were referred to by Dr. Fowler, and were on view, the members being much interested in the same.

The Librarian of the University (Mr. E. V. Stocks, M.A.), afterwards read a short paper on the University Library.

The Dean moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Stocks, which was carried.

After an examination of the books the members proceeded to the Castle Hall, where they partook of an excellent luncheon. Having refreshed themselves they visited the Cathedral, where they were received by the Dean, and under his able guidance went over the noble edifice.

From the Cathedral the members went to the Chapter Library, where Dr. Greenwell gave an account of its history and contents.

The business meeting was held in Bishop Cosin's Library, the president occupying the chair.

The secretary reported that the Council had re-nominated the existing vice-presidents and council, with the addition of Mr. Furnish, of York, also Mr. Butler Wood, of Bradford, as president. They had accepted an invitation to hold a meeting at Workington next June.

Mr. B. R. Hill, Sunderland, introduced the question: "Is the time not opportune when the claims of Public Libraries for the custody of civil and ecclesiastical records should be considered?" He said that he had lately edited some volumes for the local Antiquarian Society, and had been struck with the difficulty in getting registers, title deeds, &c., and he thought that meeting was a good opportunity to introduce the question. He advocated the provision of strong rooms for the custody of such documents as parish registers, churchwarden's accounts, title deeds, and rate books. He referred to the fact that as the result of a fire at Monkwearmouth many registers were destroyed, and at Tanfield it was impossible to say where a number of early registers could be found. To have these documents in a library would be very valuable when compiling local history.

Mr. Purves said that a Government Commission had decided against giving Public Libraries the custody of civil and ecclesiastical records.

The President said that it would be necessary to obtain the consent of Parliament.

Mr. Deas said the provision of strong rooms would be a heavy item.

Councillor Holmes said that there were several documents of such value that they would have to be kept out of the reach of the public.

Mr. Johnson suggested that the matter should be referred back to the Executive Council. He said that Mr. Hill had only touched the fringe of the question. He believed that many people would gladly part with title deeds to others; old rate-books were just a humbug.

The suggestion was adopted.

Mr. Charlton Deas introduced the question: "Are subscription libraries desirable adjuncts to Public Libraries?" He said that once he was of opinion that subscription libraries were a desirable adjunct, but recently he had changed his opinion.

Mr. Arrowsmith said that there was nothing to be ashamed of in subscription libraries. At Darlington the subscription library was called the book club, and the Public Library received many books from that source—books principally of fiction.

Mr. Purves said at Workington he did not know what they would do without a book club.

The President said that book clubs or subscription libraries created a class distinction. Public Libraries were for every section of the community. He thought they could do without book clubs, as they were responsible for the introduction of much rubbish into Public Libraries.

There was no further discussion on the question. After tea in the Castle Hall the members visited the Castle, and an interesting day's proceedings terminated.

NORTH MIDLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

ON July 7th the members spent a day together on the Lincolnshire coast—at Skegness. The Nottingham district members travelled in a saloon. The day was delightfully fine, and a very enjoyable day was spent in various ways—in playing cricket on the sands, driving by the Roman bank to Chapel St. Leonards, &c.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: NORTH-WESTERN BRANCH.

THE Summer School of the North-Western Branch of the Library Association was held in the John Rylands Library, Manchester, on June 21, 22, and 23. The President, Alderman Southern, welcomed the students. The following was the programme of lectures, &c.:—"Book Selection and Accession Methods," by E. A. Baker, M.A., Librarian of Wallasey Public Libraries. "Lectures and other Aids," by James Hutt, M.A., Librarian of the Lyceum, Liverpool. "Lending Library Work," by R. K. Dent, Librarian of the Aston Manor Public Libraries. "Reference Library Work," by R. K. Dent. "Books of Reference, and how to use them," by Julian Peacock, Assistant Librarian, the John Rylands Library, Manchester.

Visits to the Blackley and Openshaw Branch Libraries, and such other branches and reading-rooms in Manchester as time permitted, were arranged.

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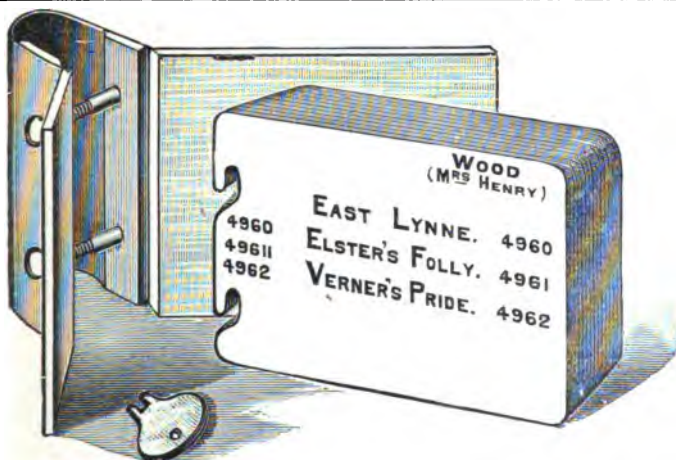
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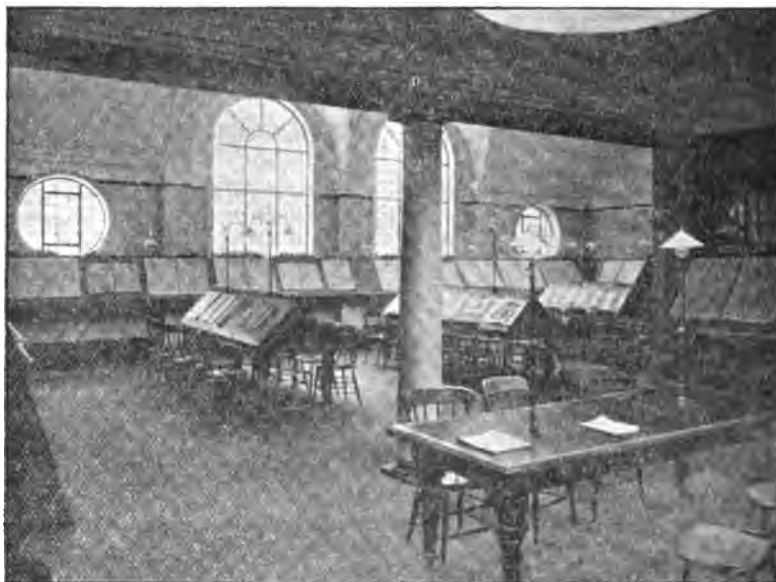
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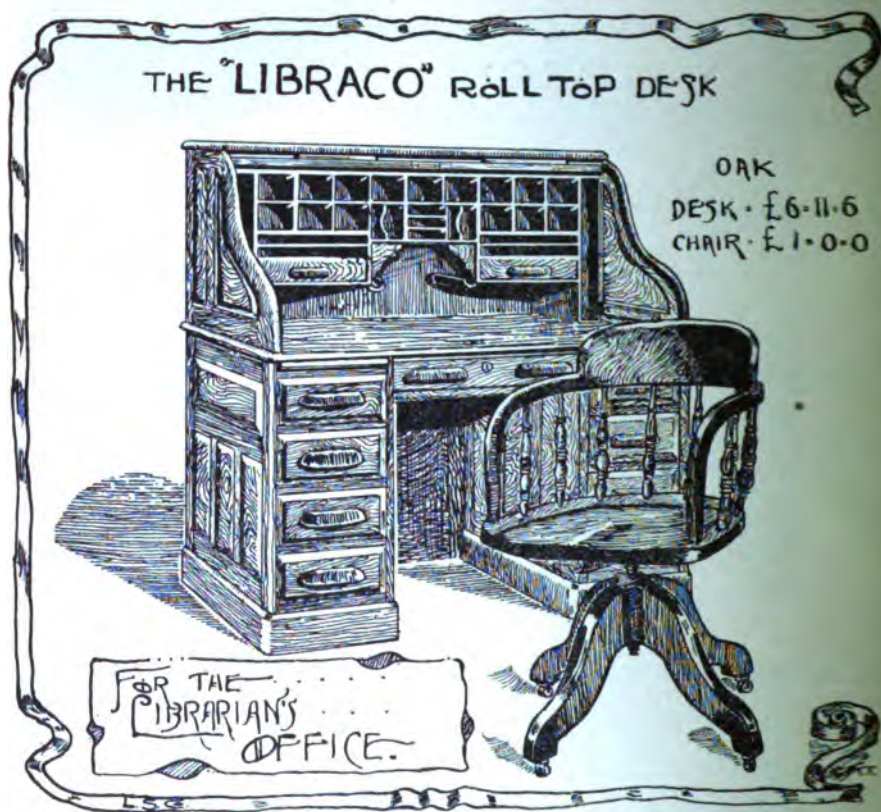
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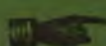
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Some Points of Contact. By S. T. Ewart.

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NOTES ON PROVINCIAL PRINTERS AND BOOKSELLERS.—ESSEX.

By R. A. PEDDIE.

o o o

A FIRST attempt to give the dates of the introduction of printing into the various places in a county, generally results in an exhibition of the ignorance of the compiler. Further, when the information has not been systematically collected but simply forms part of a general collection of titles, relating not only to that county but to the country at large, the local specialist will probably quote vaguely of "rushing in where" he "fears to tread." My only apology, and I consider it a perfectly valid one, for publishing the following notes on Essex printers and booksellers, is that no one else has done it.

The history of English provincial printing is not inspiring. Here and there a great press may occasionally stand out against the dull grey of bad type, worse paper and unmentionable press work, but Baskerville, Foulis and the one or two others who rose above mediocrity are very solitary flashes in the darkness. The interest must be sought elsewhere than in the craftsmanship of works of this period. It is in the local character of these books and pamphlets that we find their value. Even sermons by divines of the prosiest order, were delivered on some occasion, perhaps, only known to us by the information on the title-page. Some marriage or funeral or other local event which may be searched for with little result in the very few columns of the local paper even if such existed at the time. But the subject of local bibliography and local collections is a little away from the topic under discussion. I do not put forward my list as a contribution to Essex bibliography, and therefore have only quoted titles where necessary to indicate change of printer or change in the firm name.

The history of English provincial printing will have to be written as a whole some time in the future, and these county lists are, perhaps, the best preparation for it. The late W. H. Allnutt, of Oxford, had collected for many years with a view to something of this kind. I understand that his material, much of which I was enabled to consult for the purposes of this paper, will be incorporated in the library so generously presented to the librarians of the county by Mr. Thomas Greenwood, and shortly to be deposited in the Manchester Public Library. Beside Mr. Allnutt's notebooks, I have also referred (as little as possible) to Cotton's *Typographical Gazetteer*, and many of my references are from works in the British Museum.

Billerica:—J. Morris occurs as bookseller here on the imprint of Fry's "*Exercise of Reason*." Sudbury, 1800.

VOL. VII. No. 75. September, 1904.

Bocking :—Cotton's *Typographical Gazetteer*, series 2, says Fenno & Shearcroft were established as printers about 1785-90, "and they printed J. Mason's 'Spiritual Songs' in 1788." J. L. Shearcroft printed in 1794 "The Account of the Proceedings of the Essex Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture," and in 1814 "A Sermon by William Adams."

Braintree :—Mrs. Thorn is the Braintree bookseller mentioned on the imprint of Case's "Objections against any Human Authority in Religion," Chelmsford [1773?], and J. Smitheman appears in 1782 on Bocking's "Spiritual Hymns," Chelmsford, and in 1787 on "A Sermon by W. L. Phillips," Chelmsford.

Chelmsford :—Mr. Allnutt in the "Library," 1901, quoting *Notes and Queries* 3rd series I. 287 and 5th series I. 285 says "The 'Chelmsford Chronicle' started in 1764. Cotton says 'A newspaper called 'The Chelmsford Chronicle' began to be published here about the year 1730.' This very probably exists, but as yet I have found no trace of it. James Buckland, who published at the sign of the Buck in Paternoster Row, had a shop in Chelmsford in 1736, as may be seen by the imprint of Moody's "Impartial Justice." Buckland seems to have given up this shop by 1745, as in that year he published in London Ball's "Sermons," and announced them to be sold by "Mr. Lobb, bookseller at Chelmsford." In 1755 we find T. Toft acting as his agent. T. Toft became a printer in or before the year 1765, as in that year we find him printing Ogborne's "Merry Midnight Mistake." Three years later, on the Poll Book of 1768, the imprint becomes T. Toft and R. Lobb. Case's "Catechism" of 1770 had the name of this firm. In 1769 Lionel Hassall printed the 2nd vol. of the *History of Essex*, followed in 1770 by vols. 1 and 3, in 1771 by vol. 4, and in 1772 by vol. 5. Vol. 6 was printed by M. Hassall in 1772. J. Frost occurs as bookseller on Abdy's "Sermon," London, 1773. Case's "Objections against any Human Authority in Religion," [1773?] is printed by W. Clachar and C. Frost. S. Gray makes his appearance as the printer of Holden's "Paraphrase on Isaiah," 1776. By 1782 Gray seems to have been absorbed by Clachar and Frost, as the firm appears as Clachar, Frost & Gray on Bocking's "Spiritual Hymns." The firm is again changed by 1785, as on Pouzaire's "Treatise on the mineral waters of Balarne," the imprint runs W. Clachar, S. Gray & Co., publishers of "The Chelmsford Chronicle." During the same year Gray's name was dropped out, the firm being W. Clachar & Co. on the "Free enquiries into the increase of attorneys," 1785. On Phillips's "Clerical misconduct" [1787] W. Clachar appears as printer, bookseller and agent to the Sun Fire Office, and he still appears alone on "The Account of the Proceedings of the Essex Society," Bocking, 1794. In 1796 he has two partners, the firm appearing as Clachar, Meggy and Chalk on a broadside auction sale bill in the Bodleian Library. "The State of the Charity for the relief of poor clergymen," etc., was printed in 1799 by R. C. Stanes. In 1802 the firm was R. C. Stanes & Co.

Colchester :—"A Choak-peare for the Parliament" has the following imprint, "Printed at Colchester in the year 1648," but this is the only evidence of the existence of a press here at so early a date. During the later years of the 17th century I have notes of the following names of booksellers :—Hall, 1688-93; Francis Blithe, 1692; Samuel Jones, 1695; Curtis's "Peace Offering," London, 1713, is "sold . . . by Mr. Blithe of Colchester." In 1733 Tren's "Sincerity proved a safeguard against ignorance" is "Printed by J. Pilborough for T. Davies, near the Ship Tavern." I have no note of John Pilborough after 1736. Canning's "Sermon," Ipswich, 1746, is "sold by . . . Mr. Kendall in Colchester." H. Keymer is the Colchester bookseller in the imprint of Bowman's "Principles of Christianity," Norwich, 1764. The name of Gibbs occurs on Case's "Objections," etc., Chelmsford [1773?] and as S. Gibbs on Bocking's "Spiritual Hymns," Chelmsford, 1782, also on Phillips's "Clerical misconduct," Chelmsford [1787]. W. Keymer printed Bingham's "Wisdom of considering our latter end" [1776] and was printing until some time between 1789 and 1794, as in the latter year W. Keymer, junr., printed Twining's "Duty of allegiance." Carter's "True relation," etc., 1789, was "Printed and sold by J. Fenno, bookseller, binder and stationer, opposite the George in the High Street." Fenno occurs as bookseller on the "Proceedings of the Essex Society," Bocking, 1794.

Harlow :—B. Flower was printing here 1805-11. Robinson's "Seventeen discourses," 1805.

Harwich :—Curtis's "Peace offering," London, 1713, was "sold by . . . Mr. Jefferies of Harwich." William Summers, a stationer here, was bankrupt in 1790. Power gives the date of 1784 for introduction of printing.

Low Leyton :—"Edward Rowe Mores had a private press here, and printed *Nomina Villarum* in Com. Berks. Impress, Leytone Essexensium 1759 [Bodl.]" Allnutt "Library," 1901.

Maldon :—Bocking's "Spiritual Hymns," Chelmsford, 1782, was "sold by . . . J. Carter, Maldon." P. H. Youngman printed here c. 1837-41.

Romford :—T. Robinson, who printed Williams's "Sermon" in 1812, called his press "The Essex Press."

Saffron Walden :—The bookseller here in 1782 mentioned on Bocking's "Spiritual Hymns," is Payne. C. Payn and J. Burrows occur as booksellers on Dennison's "Declaration," Cambridge [1805]. W. Clayton's "Rural discourses" is "Printed and sold . . . by G. Youngman, Market Place . . . 1814." G. Youngman also printed the 12th report of the Saffron Walden Bible Society in 1824, and the "Abridged catalogue of the Saffron Walden Museum," 1845, has for imprint "Youngman, printer and stationer." In 1847 the Hon. R. C. Neville printed at Saffron Walden (for his private friends alone) "the result of some excavations . . . at Chesterford," etc. [Cotton].

Waltham Abbey :—An Advt. is in Bodl., printed by T. Baldwin in 1791, and an auction bill (in the Bodl.) of Mr. Mason, advertising the sale of the furniture of Mrs. Grist, on March 25, 1800, was printed here. •

Witham :—Case's "Objections," etc., Chelmsford [1773?] was "sold by . . . Mr. Nicholls, Witham," and Bocking's "Spiritual Hymns," Chelmsford, 1782, was sold by S. Nicholls. Phillips's "Clerical misconduct," Chelmsford, 1787, was sold in Witham by Mr. Allen.



ESSAYS ON INDEXING.—XII.

By ARCHIBALD L. CLARKE, *Librarian, Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, London.*

Continued from Vol. VII. p. 31.

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- (15) PETAVEL (J. E.). An experimental research on some standards of light. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 469-503.
 Electric arc, intrinsic brilliancy of crater. Petavel (J. E.).
 Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 469-503.
 Standards of light—electric arc, molten platinum (Violle and Lummer and Kurlbaum). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1900, lxx., 469-503.

The title above given is a most decided instance of the importance of ascertaining what the paper is about, before attempting to index it. It would almost look as if the author had forgotten to insert the word "electric" before light. The entry "electric arc," etc., usefully supplies the want in the title, but the next, "Standards of light—electric arc," etc., is an analysis that needs alphabetical disposal. "Standards" is not of sufficient value to rank as a subject-word. The arrangement should therefore be as follows :—

Electric light (Standards of) :

Electric arc. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Platinum, molten. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

"Platinum (molten) : standard of brilliancy," is also an entry that is needed, but not supplied. As I pointed out in Part I., the use of the adjective as a first word in compounds should be sparing, and is permissible only when sanctioned by custom, as when the adjective is more the subject than the substantive it qualifies. There should, however, be a cross-reference under "Molten platinum."

- (16) HOPKINS (F. Gowland) and COLE (Sydney W.)—on the proteid reaction of Adamkiewicz, with contributions to the chemistry of glyoxylic acid. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxxviii., 21-33.

COLE (Sydney W.) and HOPKINS (F. Gowland). [Title repeated.]

Glyoxylic acid—colour reaction with proteids; from acetic acid by oxidation; as impurity in acetic acid. Hopkins, F. G., and Cole, S. W. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 21-23.

Proteids—colour reaction, with glyoxylic acid; Adamkiewicz reaction. Hopkins, F. G., and Cole, S. W. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii.; 21-23.

The additional headings that need supplying are:—

Acetic acid: glyoxylic acid as impurity in.

Colour reaction of glyoxylic acid with proteids.

Proteid reaction of Adamkiewicz.

Adamkiewicz reaction. See Colour reaction.

Reaction: See *Colour reaction*; *Proteid reaction*.

"Acetic" and "Glyoxylic" are as much, part of the subject as the word acid, or more so, therefore; though adjectives, they should be the first words, and precede "acid." As they are allied bodies, there should be a cross-reference from one to the other. This statement should be contrasted with that about "Molten Platinum" given above.

(17) WALLER (Augustus D.). An attempt to estimate the vitality of seeds by an electrical method. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 79-82.

"Blaze" electrical: an estimate of the vitality of seeds. Waller, A. D. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 79-82.

Seeds, vitality of, tested electrically. Waller, A. D. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 79-82.

The above are fully sufficient entries, except that of course, for the purposes of a comprehensive subject index, the following cross-references are necessary:—

Electricity, see "*Blaze*," electrical.

Botany, physiological. See *Seeds*, vitality of.

(18) HARTLEY (W. N.). Notes on the spark spectrum of silicon as rendered by silicates. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 109-112.

Carbon lines; reduction in spark spectrum of silicon. Hartley, W. N. [etc.]

Silicon in silicates, reduction in spark spectrum of. Hartley, W. N. [etc.]

Sodium lines, suppression of, in spark spectra of sodium silicate solutions. [Hartley, W. N., &c.]

The entries under "Carbon lines" and "Sodium lines" are useful in the way of indicating what the title does not convey, but the following entries are also necessary:—

Spark spectrum of silicon. Hartley, W. N. [etc.]

Silicates: spark spectrum of silicon as rendered by. Hartley, W. N. [etc.]

and the following cross-reference : —

Spectrum. See *Spark* spectrum.

- (19) WILSON (C. T. R.). On the ionisation of atmospheric air.

Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 151-161.

Electricity, leakage of, through air. Wilson, C. T. R. [etc.]

Ionisation of air. Wilson, C. T. R. [etc.]

Additional entry required : Air, ionisation of.

- (20) CHREE (C.) Elastic solids at rest or in motion in a liquid.

Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 235-246.

Gravitative action, simulated in elastic fluids in motion.

Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 235-48.

Fluid, perfect, motion of elastic ellipsoid in. Chree, C.

Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Fluid, viscous, motion of elastic ellipsoid in. Chree, C.

Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

The headings, as originally given in the index slip, stand as "Perfect fluid," and "Viscous Fluid," but this is certainly too generous use of the adjective. "Gravitative action," on the contrary, is correct as it stands, as "gravitative" is a verbal, not a descriptive adjective, in the sense of "perfect" or "fluid."

Additional entry required :—

Solids, elastic, at rest or in motion in a liquid. Chree, C. [etc.]

It will be noticed that although "liquid" occurs in the title, fluid has been substituted as a heading. Therefore the entry, "Liquid : see *Fluid*," becomes necessary ; but this cross-reference would under all circumstances be given in any large index.

- (21) DARWIN (Horace). On the small vertical movements of a

stone laid on the surface of the ground. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 253-261.

Earthworms—action in burying stones. Darwin, Horace.

Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Soil, swelling of, caused by dampness and frost. Proc. Roy.

Soc., 1901 [etc.].

The entries here given on the "index slip" are elucidative, as they show what the paper is really about. But they need supplementing by the following :—

Stones : method of burial by earthworms. Darwin, Horace.

Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Dampness, causing swelling of soil. Darwin, Horace [etc.].

Frost, causing swelling of soil. Darwin, Horace [etc.].

Worms : see *Earthworms*.

- (22) BIDWELL, (Shelford). On negative after-images and their relation to certain other visual phenomena. Proc. Roy.

Soc., 1901, lxviii., 262-285.

Coloured Border Phenomena (subjective) attending sudden illumination. Bidwell, Shelford. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Latent period for sensations of white and coloured light.
Bidwell, Shelford [etc.].

Retina : local insensibility of, to colour, induced by action of
white light. Bidwell, Shelford [etc.].

"Coloured border phenomena" is a very marked instance of a compound heading, but it is a necessary scientific expression which must stand, its length and the double adjective notwithstanding. "Latent period," again, is another instance in which the adjective supplies the predominant idea ; the signification of the substantive "period" is altogether secondary, therefore "Latent" should be the first word. "Light, Coloured," and "Light, White," must also appear as headings. If this paper were part of a treatise on "Light," I should not hesitate to place the adjectives first, but as we are assuming the construction of a great index of general science, it is as well to keep everything on "Light" under "Light."

(23) LOCKYER (W. J. S.). The solar activity, 1833-1900. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 285-300.

Climates : changes, in relation to sun-spots. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Sun-spots : secular period of. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

To complete the above entries, "Sun, activity of, see *Sun-spots*," is all that is necessary.

(24) HEYCOCK (C. T.) and NEVILLE (F. H.). On the results of chilling copper-tin alloys. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 171-178.

NEVILLE (F. H.) and HEYCOCK (C. T.). On the results of chilling copper-tin alloys. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 171-178.

Alloys, copper-tin—results of chilling. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 171-178.

There should naturally also be an entry under "Copper-tin, alloys of," as follows :—

Copper-tin, alloys of : results of chilling. Heycock, C. T., and Neville, F. H. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 171-178.

(25) LIVEING (G. D.) and DEWAR (James). On the separation of the least volatile gases of atmospheric air and their spectra. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 389-398.

DEWAR, James, and LIVEING, G. D. On the separation of the least volatile gases of atmospheric air and their spectra. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 389-398.

Atmosphere (gases of), fractionation of. Liveing, G. D., and Dewar, James. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 389-398.

Krypton rays : wave-lengths of. Liveing, G. D., and Dewar, James. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Xenon rays : wave-lengths of. Liveing, G. D., and Dewar, James. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Cross-references necessary are :—

Air (Atmospheric) : see "*Atmosphere*."

"Spectrum" : see *Krypton* rays ; *Xenon* rays."

The heading "Atmosphere, gases of" was originally given in the index-slip as "Atmospheric gases." Obviously Atmospheric is as important a word as "gases." The avoidance of an adjective where possible is always desirable ; hence the alteration to "Atmosphere, gases of." "Gases, atmospheric : See *Atmosphere*, gases of," will also be needed as a cross-reference.

- (26) LANG (Wm. H.). Preliminary statement on the prothalli of *Ophioglossum pendulum* (L.) *Helminthostachys Zeyenica* (Hook.) and *Psilotum* (sp.). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 405-409.

Helminthostachys : prothallus of. Lang, W. H. [etc.]

Ophioglossum : prothallus of. Lang, W. H. [etc.]

Psilotum : prothallus of. Lang, W. H. [etc.]

Additional entries required are :

Prothallus of *Helminthostachys* [etc.].

Prothallus of *Ophioglossum* [etc.].

Prothallus of *Psilotum* [etc.].

- (27) MALLOCK (A.). Vibrations of rifle barrels. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 327-344.

Vibrations of rifle barrels excited by explosion. Mallock, A. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 327-344.

To the above must be added :—

Rifle barrels : vibrations of, excited by explosion. Mallock, A. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Explosion : vibrations of rifle barrels due to. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

- (28) MORGAN (C. Lloyd). Studies in visual sensation. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxviii., 459-474.

Sensation, visual : quantitative expression of contrast-limits to Fechner's formula. Morgan, C. Lloyd. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Stimulus and sensation—quantitative relation in vision. Morgan, C. Lloyd. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Cross-references needed are :—

Vision : See *Sensation* (visual).

Fechner's formula : See *Sensation*, visual.

- (29) VELEY (V. H.) and MANLEY (J. J.). Some physical properties of nitric acid solutions. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxix., 86-119.

MANLEY (J. J.) and VELEY (V. H.). Some physical properties of nitric acid solutions. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1901, lxix., 86-119.

Nitric acid ; physical properties of ; densities and contractions of solutions ; refractive indices of solutions. Veley, V. H., and Manley, J. J. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1901, lxix., 86-119.

Densities and contractions of solutions of nitric acid. Veley, V. H., and Manley, J. J. *Proc. Roy. Soc.* [etc.]

Refractive indices of solutions of nitric acid. Veley (V. H.) and Manley, J. J. *Proc. Roy. Soc.* [etc.]

The only point that calls for comment in the foregoing is the arrangement of sub-entries under "Nitric Acid." If the reader will refer to No. 10, and see what has been said about "Magnets, Collimator," and the facts relating to them, he will see that there is an equal reason for dealing with those under "Nitric Acid" in a similar manner, as follows:—

Nitric acid :
densities and contractions of solutions.
physical properties.
refractive indices of solutions.

Of course this arrangement entails a total disregard of classification, as the "densities and contractions of solutions," and "refractive indices of solutions," *are* "physical properties"—this latter sub-heading being thus thrown out of its logical position. But the same rule applies to sub-headings as to main headings. Logical position is not considered, but alphabetical order for facility of reference takes precedence of everything. There may be a thousand and one facts about nitric acid—not only physical facts, but chemical facts—and subdivisions of those chemical facts ; but each fact must take its place alphabetically under the most important word that conveys its meaning.

(*To be continued.*)



THE USES OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES.*

By J. WALTON, *Branch Librarian, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.*

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DURING the last few years at various times, in many places, papers without number have been read dealing in some way or other with Public Libraries. These papers have dealt with the choice and collecting of books, with the systems—excellent or otherwise—of their arrangement when collected, with theories and practices regarding the indexing and tabulating of their contents, with library buildings and with library administration. In short, I should suppose that there is not one of the many elements which constitute a Public Library that has not at some time or other been made the subject of either a paper or a discussion. What has been the object of all these papers and discussions? There can be only one answer. It has been that through the

*Read before the Northern Counties Library Association.

reading of papers and through the discussions which these papers evoke, better theories might be evolved and put into practice in order that these institutions, these libraries, shall be of the greatest possible use to the public who maintain them. Now, I have thought that it might not be inappropriate if, instead of giving still another prescription for increasing the vitality and therefore the usefulness of these institutions, one were to recall or bring to mind their uses to individuals and through individuals to the community in their present, and apparently rather imperfect condition.

The vast majority in this country are now able to read, and as a consequence of that ability most have developed, each according to the cast of his mind, a taste for some branch of knowledge—it may be science, or history, or even philosophy. Now, it is of distinct moment to the individual and to the community that that taste should be gratified, since, as we are told, “reading maketh a full man,” and since the tone and atmosphere of a community is, generally speaking, in direct ratio to the number of “full” or well-read men that that community contains. That taste in the majority of cases, for obvious reasons, can only be gratified by the Public Library. Statistics show that this institution is used by all grades of people, and that each class of book has its own devotees. Even dull, dry, philosophy has its lovers. I can instance the case of a labourer (I give his own definition of his occupation) who took out from my own branch library, volume by volume, in consecutive order a six-volumed edition of Lord Bacon’s English works. Another ticket holder went through “Lewes’ History of philosophy,” a dy. 8vo. edition of 1180 pages. Other examples of such reading might be given.

Then it is perhaps somewhat surprising how much reading is done in the class “Religion.” I do not know whether this experience is general, but I can certainly give it as mine, that some users of Public Libraries rarely read anything but works of a religious character. I have noted certain readers, and watched their reading, and it is curious how uniform it is. Sermons and devotional works are in constant demand. The merits of a course of such reading are obvious, and so long as works of a polemical and of a “propagandist” nature are excluded from the shelves, the library in this connection can be only an influence for good.

Again, to those concerned in pure and in applied science it cannot be gainsaid that libraries are of very real service. In every community there are those who, say, have distinct ability for that fundamental of all sciences, the science of mathematics, and these do make use of the works on pure mathematics gathered in Public Libraries. Now, though the study of pure mathematics *may* be profitless in itself, the value and importance of the application of established mathematical principles to engineering problems, to building, to all problems in physical science cannot, of course, be doubted; and if all the Public Libraries in the country in fifty years were the means of stimulating and developing the genius of only one incipient Kelvin, or Armstrong, or Robert Stephenson—a genius which otherwise might have remained

undeveloped and unknown—they have done no small service to the State. The example of the presence, and the result of the work of the discoveries of one man of original and fertile brain, may have a far-reaching effect on the life of a nation. That our libraries are used by, and are of assistance to, men of superior powers we all I suppose can testify. I myself can speak of those who in conversation have acknowledged to me their indebtedness to the local Public Library; of one, now a graduate both in science and in arts, who left his college with quite a reputation for mathematical ability; of another, an engineer and Whitworth scholar; of a third, a graduate in science, now a chemical manufacturer; of two others, graduates in science of the local college. These all during quite a lengthy period made use of the local library, and to the local library (I have it from their own mouths) much of their success is due. I will give one example of the way in which the library was useful to two of these. One wished to master some particular point in physics. Well, he took from the library, book after book on physics, read what each author had to say on that particular point, and ignored the rest of the book; it didn't concern him. One book on physics was not sufficient for its purpose and he could not afford to buy others. The library met his needs. He thus found the library an auxiliary to his college. The other acted in a similar manner, regarding some point in chemistry. Probably most members of a library staff could give similar testimony. Is there not, then, reason for speaking of the usefulness of Public Libraries, reason for asserting that they have a powerful influence in furthering the scientific knowledge of the nation?

Then as to the subject of history, which usually has the highest per-centage of issue of any class save one, what may be said? Well, history including biography (for biography is but the record of the words and actions of men who make history) is very profitable reading. The reading of history allows a man to escape from the narrow limits of own life into the world of thought and action. By it he learns of the rise, progress and decay of nations, what factors in national life make for prosperity, and what for decay; he sees the working of elemental forces common to society at all times; gains insight into the motives and reasons that govern action; and learns the causes of the prosperity or of the weakness of nations. History reveals that the political and social problems of the day are in many cases similar to those of the past; it tells how these several problems were met; the reason in this case of a mitigation of the difficulty, and in that the reason of failure. The readers and students of history are therefore able to bring an informed and clear mind to bear on questions of the day, questions of national policy, both foreign and domestic. They are able to look on modern problems through the spectacles of accumulated experience. They know what course of action in certain circumstances proved beneficial, what dangerous, in the past, and though in political and social matters it is not always safe to reason by analogy, such reasoning is of assistance in guiding to sound decisions. Since, then, so many Public Library readers are students of history, and since history is

something of a guide from the past for the present to the future, it is fair to claim that the Public Libraries of a country, especially of a democratic country like our own, are not an insignificant factor in moulding its opinions and in guiding its policies.

Then there is the recreative side of the Public Library's work. Most libraries now have a music section, and the general experience is that it is a popular section. Seeing then that it is popular and that music has its own peculiar power as a means of recreation for the mind, and is a source of comfort and enjoyment to many, one must conclude that this function of the library is of real service to a section of people—in fact is distinctly utilitarian.

Again, the Public Library has opened to hundreds that enchanting realm, the realm of pure literature, the literature which is included in the term "belles lettres"—the realm of imagination and fancy. Even in this material age there are not a few who find delight in reading the lovely thoughts, excellently expressed, of our national poets. It has been said that "poetry is indeed the voice of the nation's heart. The poetry of every age sums up the spirit of the age. Here we find the wisdom, the philosophy and the prophecy of the time. In our national poetry we find the national ideals." Now whilst only the few read poetry, many read prose, and Public Libraries having enabled the few and the many to become acquainted with the nation's ideals, its growth, and its history through its literature—poetry and prose—have done a good work since these cannot but have, as a consequence of that reading, a keener sensibility of the personal qualities that make a nation powerful and great. Then there is the essentially recreative side of imaginative literature. Who does not recall the keen pleasure that the first reading of Goldsmith's "She stoops to conquer," Sheridan's "The Rivals," or Dickens' "Pickwick Papers" gave? The reading was a pleasure and the remembrance of it is often agreeably recurring. I have heard Public Library readers express regret that these pleasures were now to them retrospective only, not prospective, so great had been the enjoyment extracted from the reading of certain books of an imaginative character. And here may I make a slight digression? The commonest and stalest argument against the Public Library is the issue of a certain kind of imaginative literature—I don't want to name it. Now at almost every library meeting the subject of this particular class of literature crops up. We are told the per-centage of its issue, the per-centage of money spent on it, we have papers extolling it, papers defending it. Altogether it is too much talked about. These figures and discussions are to some extent reported in the press, thus giving many people the impression that the distribution of this class of literature is the greatest of the library's functions, and that this function—unambitious though it be—must be defended at all costs in order that the library's existence may be justified. The opponents of the Public Library are only too pleased to have this conception concerning it continually before the public mind, and they use these figures and papers as their chief weapon for its dishonour. By all this talk and publication of figures as to fiction, you place an instrument of destruc-

tion into the hands of the enemy. This is all very well for the enemy, but a more satisfactory way (especially if you want the limit abolished), would be religiously to determine never to mention fiction, and to dwell upon, and only upon, the real and higher uses of the library. If the opponents of the Public Library want information as to libraries and fiction, by all means let them have it, but do not you be for ever placing that information before their very eyes. The mention of libraries and fiction seems to have on some minds the effect that the sight of the proverbial red rag is supposed to have upon the bull. I sometimes think that in reports, &c., it would be advisable to re-name that class of literature, and call it by, shall we say? "Concoctions of exuberant imagination," "Expositions of the possible but the improbable," "Theses concerning love and life," to call it by any other name but that ire-arousing, red-rag appellation—prose fiction. Please do not misunderstand me. I am not attacking fiction. We all know that it is both recreative and instructive. Did not the great Bismarck find relaxation in the novels of Miss Braddon—fiction of a light and pleasant character, which took his mind from the real to the fictitious, and did not the late Lord Salisbury say that he had read "Monte Cristo" half-a-dozen times? Is not fiction close akin to poetry herself? Again, does it not often impart information where the dry-as-dust textbooks would fail to make impression? But it is because fiction has become the one parrot-cry of every Tom, Dick, or Harry who wishes to have a slap at the Public Library that I think it should not be so much in evidence at meetings to the disproportionate exclusion of other subjects. Further, our statistics as to fiction are really misleading. Why do we class the historical novel, such as "Hereward, the Wake," with "Captain Kettle," the philosophical novel like "John Inglesant" with "Dr. Nikola," the religious novel like Farrar's "Gathering Clouds" with "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," and call the resultant hotch-potch fiction? We might with almost equal justice include its gentle sister poetry herself in the same medley. This for the much abused and apparently despised prose fiction.

Then it is in the reference department of large Public Libraries that the historian, the scholar, and the specialist find the documents, the material on which to base their work as on a sure foundation. These benefit by the accumulated labours of others, by the privilege of free and ready reference to the expressed conclusions of past investigators. Now, though it is often argued that the many ought not to pay in order that these—the few—may benefit, it must not be forgotten that almost invariably the many are enriched or benefitted in some indirect way by the successful labours of the gifted few.

In writing this short paper, the intention has been to suggest the influence of the Public Library upon the national life. Public Libraries will not bring the millennium, but their proper functions realised, directed by sagacious committees, administered by alert librarians and helpful staffs, they have inherent possibilities of influencing the national life possessed by no other secular institution. That they have an influence is indubitable, but its extent cannot be

determined. Libraries work silently, and circumstances do not permit the net effect of their work being known. Individuals certainly are benefited, how many we do not know, and these again have their influence on those with whom they associate. H. G. Wells has said that "the power of the Public Library is rarely thought of, and but imperfectly understood," and, again, "no nation can live under modern conditions unless its whole population is mentally aerated with books." True! If the potentialities of the book, through its distribution by the library, were understood, if it were more generally realised that the Public Library is a public college open to all at all times, that the scope of its work (unlike that of college or technical institute), is inclusive as regards both pupil and subject, it would not have the opponents that it has, nor work under the restrictions that it does, for in the main its restrictions are due to unconsciousness of its utility and its opponents to false impressions, misconceptions, and perhaps the tone of certain libraries. The Public Library is the medium by which the average public elementary schoolboy becomes the average intelligent and informed citizen; the medium which enables the poorer and perhaps unattached student to pursue his studies to his own advantage, and possibly to that of the community, by which the practical and thinking mechanic may make acquaintance with theory; it is the indispensable complement of the college and the technical institute; an instrument for the humanizing of the community, and a means of recreation to all. In short, those with experience may unhesitatingly claim that it makes for the stability and well-being of national life.



SOME POINTS OF CONTACT.

By S. T. EWART.

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ONE of the things that has struck me, when visiting Public Libraries in various parts of the country, is the lop-sidedness with which many of them are managed. Too much attention is given to details of interior administration, and not enough to the externals with which the public come in contact. A number of librarians, owing to an overmastering desire to be up to date, give all their time to discovering some new way of doing something—it does not matter what it is so long as no one else does it—and altogether neglect the matter of the actual public service. Yet, when the question is considered, it is obvious that to the public this is the most important part of the work of the library. It does not matter to the public how well the library correspondence is filed, or on what system books are ordered, if it can't find its favourite magazine or has to wait months for recent books, or, worse than all, has to deal with an impudent assistant at the issue desk. After all, it is for the public that the library exists, and all the interior work about which

so much fuss is made is done simply that the service of the public may be performed smoothly and with efficiency. Of what use would it be to put the mechanism of a boring machine into perfect working order if the bit were blunt or broken? What is the use of having all the important work of which the public knows nothing done systematically and well, if the equally important work of which it *does* know, is scamped?

Some of the points of contact between the public and staff, or the public and administration, that I have noticed to be particularly in need of attention are:—(1) The courtesy of the officials; (2) issuing of readers' tickets; (3) enforcement of rules and regulations; (4) the arrangement of periodicals; and (5) the general management of the building.

The first of these is the most important. One boorish assistant is sufficient to bring even a large library into bad odour, no matter how well everything may be managed. Not only is the question the most important one, but it is also the one most difficult to supervise. Perhaps the best way to cope with the matter is to be careful in the selection of assistants, and early to impress upon them that they are the servants of the public, and that the public are not merely accidents in the day's work. It will be found, as a rule, that it is the more juvenile members of the staff, carried away by the dignity of office, who are the worst offenders, and therefore, if they are taken in hand at the start, will be more likely to see the error of their ways and reform.

The second point, the issuing of readers' tickets, is important for this reason: it is the first transaction with the library which a person who wishes to become a borrower has to go through, and consequently forms the basis of his opinions. Yet some libraries heap difficulties in the way of intending borrowers. Not content with making the borrower fill up a sort of miniature census paper, they also require two guarantees in the case of non-householders and one in the case of householders. The reason for this elaborate precaution is not very obvious. If it is for security against the loss of books, a great deal of it is unnecessary. In the first place, only a very small proportion of books loaned are not returned, and of that small proportion nearly all can be obtained or replaced by writing to the borrower. Only in very rare cases—such as borrowers who have removed from the locality and left no trace—is it necessary to call upon the guarantor at all. The chances that both borrower and guarantor should disappear at the same time are infinitesimal. Therefore, surely it is not worth while to put everybody to a great deal of trouble for the sake of, *perhaps*, preventing the loss of a half-crown book in a few isolated cases. If, on the other hand, those precautions are taken to prevent undesirables obtaining tickets, they are simply useless. Any person who wanted to obtain a ticket for nefarious purposes could obtain two supposed signatures as easily as one. Therefore, again, it is not worth while to put thousands of honest people to extra trouble for the sake of placing an imaginary difficulty before one or two others. All that is necessary in the way of

guarantees, as has been proved by actual experience in various libraries, is to ask for *one* guarantee for non-householders, and to let householders borrow on their own signature without any outside guarantee. The delay between the filling-up of the application and the issue of the ticket is a sore point with many borrowers. A large number of libraries require a week, but with a little management it will generally be found possible to issue them after one clear day.

The enforcement of rules and regulations—our third point—is often the cause of good or bad relations between the officials and the public, according to the practice of enforcement. Rules should be taken in the spirit, not in the letter. No general rule has ever been framed that will apply to every possible case, and with proper discretion on the part of the staff, much friction will be avoided.

The fourth point, the arrangement of the periodicals taken by a library, is another one of importance. Few things look worse than a reading-room in which the periodicals are scattered loose, and at random, all over the tables; yet this is the condition of many libraries. Imagine the public looking for a particular magazine among a higgledy-piggledy mass of periodicals, all dressed in uniform covers, and then—to borrow the simile which opens a certain library classic—imagine a fruiterer's shop with the gooseberries, cherries, and strawberries all mixed together. The cases are similar, yet one seems so much more ridiculous than the other. Perhaps if the librarian's salary depended upon the proper display of his wares in the same degree as does the tradesman's, we should see a considerable alteration. As an awful example, let me say that in one case that came under my notice, a librarian lost an increase of salary for this very reason. A well-arranged magazine or news-room is one of the best advertisements a library can have; it attracts readers to the library, and in many cases leads them to become regular frequenters, and even borrowers from the lending department.

Upon the due observance of our last point depends much of the comfort of the people using the library. It includes ventilation, heating, cleanliness, and kindred matters. I will not enlarge here upon these, as local conditions bear greatly upon them, but I mention them, as many places are lamentably deficient in these respects.

The foregoing are only a few of the points of contact that the librarian should see are not neglected (or blunt, like the bit of our boring machine); there are others—many others—which will appear in the daily work of the institution. All will be well if we remember that it is for the public we do our work, and if we see that the part with which it comes in contact is done well. Let us not fail to whiten our sepulchres outside as well as in.



THE HUNDRED BEST BOOKS.

(REVISED VERSION.)

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IN the *Pall Mall Gazette* of June 4th, 1904, Lord Avebury once more raises the question of the hundred best books, or, rather, best authors, because the actual number of *books* represented in the list greatly exceeds the limit of a hundred. As the result of some cogitation, and by adopting certain suggestions, Lord Avebury has found places for Tennyson, Ruskin, Schiller, and Kalidasa, and has removed Lucretius, Spinoza, Comte and Jane Austen. Otherwise his list remains as before, and as librarians may have lost or forgotten the original collection, we reprint the revised list.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 The Bible | 28 Kalidasa "Sakuntala; or,
The Lost Ring" |
| 2 Marcus
Aurelius "Meditations" | 29 Firdusi |
| 3 Epictetus | 30 "Sheking" (Chinese Odes) |
| 4 Confucius "Analects" | 31 Æschylus "Prometheus,"
"House of Atreus,"
"Trilogy," or
"Persæ" |
| 5 "Le Bouddha et sa Religion"
(St. Hilaire) | 32 Sophocles "Œdipus" Trilogy |
| 6 Aristotle "Ethics" | 33 Euripides "Medea" |
| 7 Mahomet "Koran" | 34 Aristophanes ... "Knights" |
| 8 "Apostolic
Fathers" ... Wake's Collection | 35 Herodotus |
| 9 St. Augustine "Confessions" | 36 Xenophon "Anabasis" |
| 10 Thomas à
Kempis "Imitation" | 37 Thucydides |
| 11 Pascal "Pensées" | 38 Tacitus "Germania" |
| 12 Butler "Analogy" | 39 Livy |
| 13 Jeremy Taylor "Holy Living and
Holy Dying" | 40 Gibbon "Decline and Fall" |
| 14 Bunyan "Pilgrim's
Progress" | 41 Hume "England" |
| 15 Keble "Christian Year" | 42 Grote "Greece" |
| 16 Aristotle "Politics" | 43 Carlyle "French Revolution" |
| 17 Plato's Dialogues—at any rate, the
"Phædo"
"Republic" | 44 Green "Short History of
England" |
| 18 Demosthenes... "De Coronâ" | 45 Bacon "Novum
Organum" |
| 19 Plutarch | 46 Mill "Logic" |
| 20 Horace | 47 Mill "Political
Economy" |
| 21 Cicero "De Officiis," "De
Amicitia," "De
Senectute" | 48 Darwin "Origin of Species" |
| 22 Homer "Iliad" and
"Odyssey" | 49 Smith "Wealth of Na-
tions," part of
Human Know-
ledge" |
| 23 Hesoid | 50 Berkeley..... "Human Know-
ledge" |
| 24 Virgil | 51 Descartes "Discours sur la
Méthode" |
| 25 Nibelungenlied | 52 Locke "Conduct of the
Understanding" |
| 26 Malory "Morte d'Arthur" | 53 Lewes "History of Philo-
sophy" |
| 27 "Maha
Bharata" { Epitomised by Tal-
boys Wheeler in
the first two vols.
of his "History
of India" | 54 Cook "Voyages" |
| "Rama-
yana" { | 55 Humboldt "Travels" |

56 Darwin "Naturalist on the <i>Beagle</i> "	ESSAYISTS:—
57 Shakespeare	78 Bacon
58 Milton "Paradise Lost" and shorter poems	79 Addison
59 Dante "Divina Commedia"	80 Hume
60 Spenser "Faërie Queene"	81 Montaigne
61 Dryden's Poems	82 Macaulay
62 Chaucer Morris's (or, if expur- gated, Clarke's or Mrs. Haweis's) edition	83 Emerson
63 Gray	84 Molière
64 Burns	85 Sheridan
65 Scott's Poems	86 Voltaire "Zadig"
66 Wordsworth. Mr. Arnold's selection	87 Ruskin
67 Heine	88 Carlyle "Past and Present"
68 Pope	89 Goethe "Faust," "Wilhelm Meister"
69 Southey	90 Schiller "William Tell"
70 Tennyson	91 White "Natural History of Selborne"
71 Goldsmith ... "Vicar of Wakefield"	92 Smiles "Self-Help"
72 Swift "Gulliver's Travels"	93 Thackeray ... "Vanity Fair"
73 Defoe "Robinson Crusoe"	94 Thackeray ... "Pendennis"
74 "The Arabian Nights"	95 Dickens "Pickwick"
75 Cervantes ... "Don Quixote"	96 Dickens "David Copperfield"
76 Boswell "Johnson"	97 George Eliot "Adam Bede"
77 Burke Select works (Paynè)	98 Kingsley "Westward Ho!"
	99 Bulwer
	Lytton "Last Days of Pompeii"
	100 Scott's Novels.

When this list is analysed, we find that the main classes of literature are represented in the following proportions:—

Science	...	...	...	3
Philosophy and Religion	...	...	...	18
Political Science	...	...	...	7
Poetry and Drama	...	...	...	32
Fiction	...	...	...	17
Essays	...	...	...	8
History	...	...	...	10
Geography and Travel	...	...	...	3
Biography	...	...	...	3

This enables us to perceive that the list is really not representative of all classes of human knowledge, but merely a selection of notable books or authors distinguished for literary merit, or religious or historical value. From the utilitarian point of view, it is consequently almost valueless, and its chief merit from the librarian's point of view is that it assembles in handy form a list of good books which no self-respecting library should be without. But a much more valuable list would be a brief, classified catalogue of 1,000 best representative books in every class of literature, suitable for Public Libraries. In this, Science, Philology, and the Fine Arts would find a place, and it would be exceedingly valuable as a kind of foundation list from which all kinds of small, general libraries could build up their stocks.

LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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THE **Galloway P.L.** (Colinsburgh), the gift of the late Thos. Galloway of that place, was formally opened on July 21st. A coastguard is to act in the dual capacity of librarian and caretaker!

LORD ROSEBERY has consented to open the **West Calder Public Library** in October. This library was erected at the expense of Dr. Carnegie.

A SUITABLE design has been selected for the proposed Public Library at **Aston**. This building also will be erected by Dr. Carnegie.

DR. CARNEGIE has responded to the appeal of the authorities at **Ashby** (Grimsby) and made an offer of £1,500 for a Public Library on the usual conditions.

ON the 21st July the foundation stone of the Public Library at **Thorpe End** (Melton Mowbray) was laid. The building is to cost £1,877.

THE Public Library at **Newton Abbot** was opened on Aug. 15th by Mr. J. Passmore Edwards.

BUT one cloud marred the (locally) auspicious event of the opening of **Revoe Branch Library** (Blackpool). One of the councillors, after a little difference of opinion, abruptly left the company as a "protest against snobbery"; the snobbery, as he explained to the crowd outside the building, being the prohibition of the public at large to the opening ceremony.

DR. CARNEGIE has offered £2,000 to **Stapleford Parish** (Notts) for the erection of a Public Library, subject, of course, to the usual conditions being fulfilled.

No fewer than 285 plans have been submitted by architects for a Carnegie Library at **Peterborough**.

DR. CARNEGIE'S philanthropy has taken a turn which, as many librarians consider, might be continued with advantage. He has wiped off the debt attached to the **Grangemouth** Public Library, a sum of £410.

THE King has sent a little contribution of twenty guineas to the furnishing fund of the new Carnegie Library at **King's Lynn**.

THE **Chelmsford** Town Council, on July 27th, passed a scheme for providing a Public Library, &c., for the borough. Dr. Carnegie contributes £2,500 towards the expenses.

A TENDER has been accepted for the erection of a new Public Library at **Herne Hill**, the expense of which is to be borne by Dr. Carnegie.

DR. CARNEGIE made an offer to **Burntisland**, so it was decided to take a *plébescite* of the householders on the question of the adoption of the Acts. The result was not satisfactory, for although the majority for was 101, a larger number than this remained neutral in the matter. The question is deferred.

Tain was *en fête* on the 4th of this month (August) in connection with the opening ceremony of the Tain Carnegie Public Library. The building cost £1,250.

DR. CARNEGIE has increased his offer to **Haslington** for a Public Library, from £1,500 to £2,500.

THE Earl of Rosebery, as high steward of the borough of **Kingston-on-Thames**, has promised to open the museum and art gallery adjacent to the Public Library. The date fixed is October 31st.

THE Earl of Jersey has offered a site for a branch library at St. Thomas', **Swansea**, and to contribute £200 towards its furnishing, whilst Lady Jersey has promised a substantial gift of books.

MR. THOMAS **Blackwood** has been appointed librarian of the **West Calder** Carnegie Public Library. There were 160 applicants.

MR. J. A. CHARLTON **Deas**, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, has been appointed librarian of the **Sunderland** Public Library, subject to the approval of the Council.

THE foundation-stone of the **Walkley** Public Library was laid on August 9th.

THE Public Libraries Acts have been adopted by the Metropolitan Borough of **Islington** by 36 to 17 votes. This is the fourth attempt, and its success puts the largest metropolitan borough on a level with some of its humbler neighbours.

WITH regard to a recent paragraph in our columns on supplying catalogues of books for the **blind**, we are informed that the Bury Public Library authorities published one nearly two years ago. The specimen copy sent is printed in ordinary type. The special catalogue issued at Newcastle is printed in *raised* type for the use of the blind, and this we take it, was the chief point in our previous note.

CLAIMANTS for priority in the use of certain library methods should, in addition to fixing the dates of their own inventions, look up the bibliography of the subject before assuming that their individual efforts are first in the field. We have been amused greatly during the past six years at the number of claims, advanced by some of the younger librarians, to the invention of methods or appliances which are nearly as old as the Serapeum. Catalogue prefaces in particular are generally pretty fertile in this kind of claim, although reports run them very close. It is amusing, and also instructive, to notice in different library reports announcements about the introduction into such-and-such a town of annotations, classification, the two-ticket system, open shelves, library bulletins, &c., &c., without the slightest reference to the fact that they have been in use elsewhere

for many years. The pushing young librarian of the present day does not appear to be conscious of any lack of dignity in thus appropriating the ideas of other men. These remarks are not made *apropos* of any particular case, but are suggested by the recent great activity among young librarians in claiming all kinds of methods, after a merely superficial examination of the evidence in support of the priority of other claims.

THE **Torquay** Town Council have decided to adopt the "Open Access" system after a most exhaustive enquiry, the main points of which were tabulated and printed in a special report. We are informed that the town was flooded with literature denouncing open access, but in spite of this the decision was as we have announced.



THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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ALTHOUGH it has reached the second part of a second volume, we do not remember having seen a number of the *Folkbiblioteksbladet* before. It is a magazine of about the same size as the "Library World," and comes from Stockholm. Perhaps the most interesting article is Fredr. Nilsson's "Ett praktiskt expeditionssystem." He gives a very complete and clear idea of the organisation of the travelling library. Selma Johansson writes on "Folkbibliotekets i Luleå tillkomst och första verksamhetsår." The remainder of the number consists of signed reviews of books, and notes on the work of various libraries.

The *Library Assistant* for August is more varied than usual. Henry Ogle, in an article entitled "An Old Town Library," outlines the history of the Town Library of Ipswich. Founded in 1612, it takes second place, Norwich being first (1608) and Bristol third (1613). Frank J. P. Burgoyne gives the typographical history of Richard Pynson. There are also several pages of reviews of professional publications, and some notes under the heading of "Library Gossip." The result of the election of officers and committee is also given.

The July *Library Association Record* opens with an interesting paper on "Weeding-out and kindred problems" by W. E. Doubleday. His main points are that weeding-out should be constantly attended to, and that the technical books should be kept up to date, even though to do so entails a shortage in other sections of literature. If subject-lists are published it will be easy to discard undesirable books as each edition is produced. If a complete catalogue is adopted, attention should be given to the plan of monotyping these catalogues, so that

with the type kept standing, frequent editions may be brought out cheaply and necessary revisions made. Revision of stock should be systematically attempted. Another paper of interest is W. J. Willcock's "Proportional representation of different classes of literature in libraries." The results he arrives at as to the class proportions of working libraries of 10,000, 30,000 and 60,000 volumes respectively, are as follows:—

	Stock.	Per Cent.	Stock.	Per Cent.	Stock.	Per Cent.
General Works...	500	5.0	2,000	6.6	7,000	11.6
Philosophy ...	150	1.5	500	1.6	2,000	3.3
Religion ...	350	3.5	1,400	4.6	2,000	3.3
Sociology ...	400	4.0	1,700	5.6	3,500	5.83
Philology ...	100	1.0	400	1.3	500	.83
Natural Science	700	7.0	1,600	5.3	5,000	8.3
Useful Arts ...	300	3.0	1,500	5.0	4,000	6.6
Fine Arts ...	250	2.5	1,300	4.3	3,000	5.0
Literature ...	650	6.5	2,600	8.6	5,000	8.3
Fiction ...	2,500	25.0	7,000	23.3	10,000	16.6
Juvenile Works...	1,500	15.0	2,500	8.3	3,000	5.0
Travel ...	600	6.0	2,000	6.6	4,000	6.6
Biography ...	1,000	10.0	3,000	10.0	5,000	8.3
History ...	1,000	10.0	2,500	8.3	6,000	10.0
Total ...	10,000	100.	30,000	100.	60,000	100.

The July *Library Journal* is a library assistant number. "Library assistants: shortcomings and desirable qualifications" is a symposium on the subject. It makes interesting reading, not only from the assistant's point of view, but also as showing up the idiosyncrasies of some of the librarians who give their opinions. Frances B. Hawley writes on "Some non-technical qualifications for library work." Her point of view is that of the female—or is it lady?—assistant; she indeed says "many of our non-technical qualifications we owe to the fact that we are—most of us—women." Her thesis is that the most important point is the attitude of the assistant to the institution in which she works. A very interesting item is the "Brooklyn Public Library scheme of library service." It is a civil service plan well worth the study of every librarian. Other articles are: "the Problem of the small library" by C. F. Adams, "Printed catalog cards for small libraries" and a report of the Conference at Johannesburg.

The *Literary Collector* for June contains an article by Henry E. Legler, entitled "King's Strang's press: a bibliographical narrative." James J. Strang, a "Latter Day Saint," was the rival of Brigham Young for the mantle of Joseph Smith. His pretensions being rejected, he retired with his followers to Beaver Island, between lakes Huron and Michigan. While there he set up a press, and it is with the productions of this that the article is mainly concerned. Mr. A. H. Joline concludes his bibliographical memoir of William Harrison Ainsworth, and the usual departments constitute the remainder of the number.

To the *Antiquary* for August, Mr. Thomas E. Maw contributes an interesting account of the "Church libraries of King's Lynn." He traces the history of the collection—now in the Stanley Public Library, King's Lynn—known as the St. Margaret's Church Library, from its foundation in 1617. By means of extracts from the rules and resolutions of the authorities, he gives a good idea of the way in which the library was managed, and of the duties of the librarian, who, by-the-way, had "for his care and paynes 20s. p. ann. quarterly to be paid"!



LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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CATALOGUES.

Bury Public Library. [List of Books for the Blind. Compiled by Archibald Sparke, Librarian.] pp. 4. Fol. [Printed in the Braille embossed type.]

A short author list, with titles cut down as much as possible, of the books for the blind in the lending department. The majority of the books are light in subject matter, fiction, poetry and drama predominating

Wigan Free Public Library. Reference Department, Catalogue of Books. Letter O only. By H. T. Folkard, Librarian. pp. 2,475—2,597. 4to. 1204.

With the publication of this part, the end of Mr. Folkard's herculean task—commenced in 1886—is within appreciable distance. We have already described the plan upon which the catalogue is compiled, and will therefore not repeat, but as an indication, of the amount of labour involved, we may note that the articles in collections like the "Dictionary of National Biography" and the "Encyclopædia Britannica" are all separately entered under their proper headings. This part has been carried out with the customary minuteness and accuracy.

BULLETINS.

Brooklyn. *Co-operative Bulletin.* In addition to the ordinary Bulletin we have received an "author index" of 44 pages, covering the year 1903. It is intended as an index to the Bulletin, but is full enough to serve as a finding list.

Cardiff. *Public Library Journal.* The July number contains: Notes and News; Books on Cookery; the Welsh Bible Exhibition; list of New Books; and several articles on Museum subjects. There is also the usual Bibliography of Wales supplement.

Manchester. *Quarterly Record.* The usual classified list of additions, with occasional annotations.

Nottingham. *Library Bulletin.* The list of Holiday Books is continued, and the list of Assumed Names in Literature is concluded. There is an enclosure consisting of a pamphlet list of books on Dante, issued in connection with the University Extension lectures.

West Ham. *Hand Lists, 8; Books on the Far East.* A sixteen page list, classified under the various countries involved. There are occasional annotations.

Willesden Green. *Quarterly Record.* The July number contains an annotated list of additions—by the way, quotations in notes should be acknowledged—and an article on Kilburn Priory.

REPORTS.

Eastbourne (one branch), eighth report, 1903-04. Stock 8,371 volumes; borrowers 4,194; volumes issued 86,101 (lending 81,995, reference 4,106), last year 72,608; expenditure £1,040 3s. 6d. The new central library building, of which the foundation-stone was laid on 25th April, 1903, is rapidly nearing completion. Blind readers are being catered for. With the idea of founding children's libraries, a large number of the books added during the year have been suitable for the upper standards of the schools, and printed notices calling attention to these books have been sent to each school. Four lectures have been given.

Portsmouth (two branches), twentieth report, 1903-04. Stock 64,317 volumes; borrowers 3,079; volumes issued 286,663 (lending 256,264, reference 30,399); expenditure £3,070 2s. 2d. The quality of the reading done has improved throughout the year. New books have been brought before the notice of borrowers by means of show cases and lists printed in the local papers.

Richmond (one delivery station), twenty-third report, 1903-04. Stock 31,209 volumes; borrowers 3,334; volumes issued 102,571 (lending 95,039, reference 7,532), last year 97,838; expenditure £1,287 14s. 10d. The most important event of the year was the acquisition of some freehold property adjoining the library, for the sum of £3,300. Owing to limited funds, however, it is not expected that building operations will be commenced for several years. Some repairs have had to be carried out on the present building.

Willesden: Kensal Rise Library, 1903-04. Stock 3,612 volumes; borrowers 1,060; volumes issued 18,096, last year 17,092; expenditure £394 7s. 3d. Extended premises, built with a gift of £3,000 from Dr. Carnegie, were opened in May, 1904. Borrowers are now permitted to have extra tickets for non-fictional books.

Willesden : Willesden Green Library, 1903-04. Stock, 12,180; borrowers 3,286; volumes issued 87,996 (lending 80,517, reference 7,479), last year 82,843; expenditure £1,069 19s. The work of the library has increased in a very satisfactory way all round. "Readers have frequently expressed appreciation" of the open shelves instituted two years ago. As at Kensal Rise, borrowers are now allowed an extra ticket for non-fiction.

York, eleventh report, 1903-04. Stock 23,586 volumes; borrowers 5,477; volumes issued 155,404 (lending 149,457, reference 5,947); expenditure £1,764 6s. 1d. Dr. Carnegie has offered £5,000 for the erection of two branch libraries on condition that an additional rate realising £400 a year be levied for their maintenance. Up to the present it has been found impossible to comply with this condition. Since 1st December, when books for the blind were first issued, 189 volumes have been issued.

Finsbury (one branch), 1903-4. Stock 25,338 volumes; borrowers 3,778; volumes issued 131,621 (lending 102,722, reference 28,899), last year 111,910; expenditure £2,196 17s. 1d. Arrangements are nearly completed for the opening of a new branch in the St. Sepulchre district. Owing to the difficulty of complying with the free site condition attached to Dr. Carnegie's offer of £13,000, the matter has been held over for further consideration, and for the production, if possible, of an alternative scheme which may prove acceptable. The proportion of fiction issued has decreased four per cent.

Glasgow : Baillie's Institution Free Reference Library, fifteenth report, 1903-04. Stock 20,392 volumes; volumes issued (during four months only) 16,412. Owing to removal to new premises, the library was closed for eight months. The proceedings at the opening of the new building are printed as part of the report.

Kingston-upon-Thames, 1902-04. Statistics for 1903-04: stock 12,406 volumes; borrowers 3,140; volumes issued 74,495. The principal event of the year was the opening, on 11th May, of the new building built by a Carnegie gift of £8,400. The juvenile department has been a failure, the attendance being so large and so disorderly as to be a severe tax upon the staff. The greater portion of the report is taken up by the proceedings in connection with the opening of the new library.

Westminster (five libraries), 1903-04. Stock 108,800 volumes; borrowers 11,028; volumes issued 484,403 (lending 311,093, reference 173,310), last year 464,279. New catalogues of the various libraries are in hand, and will be issued shortly. A rearrangement of the lending department of the Buckingham Palace Road library has provided space for an additional 6,000. An unusual bit of indexing has been done at the St. Martin's library. Some years ago a collection of volumes of

extracts from various sources relating to Inns, Taverns, Coffee Houses, Tea Gardens, and Places of Amusement, and these have been indexed under their names and localities. When it is remembered that before houses were numbered, the common method of indicating the whereabouts of a house was by stating its position in regard to some well-known hostelry, the value of this collection in fixing the location of old buildings will be apparent.



THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.]

Spencer (Baldwin) and F. J. Gillen. The Northern tribes of Central Australia. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1904. 8°, 9", pp. xxxvi. + 784, *illust.*, 2 *col. maps*. Price 21s. net.

An account of the anthropological features, social organisation, ceremonies, totems, customs, traditions, weapons, ornaments, and language of the native tribes of South Australia, from the Gulf of Carpentaria to Lake Eyre.

An elaborate, valuable and interesting work, forming a continuation or supplement to the well-known book by the same author, entitled, "The Native Tribes of Central Australia." This is a model of what an ethnological treatise should be, giving the most exhaustive information on every point, very fully illustrated, and written in an attractive style. It is a valuable addition to the literature of tribal customs, and does for Australia what has been done for North America by the elaborate monographs of the Smithsonian Institution.

Dougall (Charles S.). The Burns Country. London: A. & C. Black, 1904. 8°, 8½", pp. xii. + 338, *illust.* Price 6s.

An account of the houses, towns, and localities in Ayrshire and Dumfriesshire associated with the life and works of Burns, the poet.

Another good example of the literary guide-book, forming an indispensable companion to the volumes already issued by various publishers on the localities identified with Scott, Hardy, Dickens,

Tennyson, &c. Mr. Dougall devotes the larger part of his interesting work to the Ayrshire experiences of the poet, and gives accurate information concerning Ayr, Irvine, Mauchline, Kilmarnock and other favoured Burns localities. The Dumfries section, if less full, is quite satisfactory, and the illustrations are appropriate and plentiful.

Boulger (Demetrius C.). Belgian life in town and country. London : George Newnes, Ltd. [1904.] 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 236, *illustr.*, Price 3s. 6d. net.

Races, constitution, society, manufactures, amusements, literature, art, colonies, and other features of modern Belgium, uniform with the series called "Our Neighbours."

A clear and remarkably complete account of Belgium, particularly valuable for its chapters on the characteristics of the Flemish and Walloon populations, and for the intimate knowledge displayed all through of Belgian life and institutions.

Latter (Oswald H.). The Natural history of some common animals. Cambridge: University Press, 1904. 8°, 7½". pp. x. + 332, *illustr.* Price 5s. net.

A manual for the "type" method of teaching zoology, dealing with earth-worms, leeches, crayfish, cockroaches, dragonflies, wasps, mussels, snails and slugs, frogs, toads and newts, and internal parasites of domestic animals.

A new volume of the "Cambridge Biological Series," distinguished, like most of its predecessors, by lucidity of treatment and arrangement and completeness of design. Should be added to the collections of works on nature study now being formed in most libraries, if not required to complete the series to which it belongs.

George (H. B.). The Relations of geography and history. Oxford : Clarendon Press, 1903. 2nd ed. 8°, 7¾", pp. viii. + 296, *map*. Price 4s. 6d.

A treatise on the influence of physical configuration on the boundaries, relations and progress of nations and states. Treats of the principal European nations, and devotes a chapter to America.

Gwynn (Stephen). The Masters of English literature. London : Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1904. 8°, 7", pp. xvi. + 424.

A critical and historical account of the chief authors from Chaucer to Tennyson, dealing only with the greater names, and ignoring those of minor note.

A very useful introduction to English literary history, professing only to deal with those writers about whom everyone ought to know a little. Within its limits, an excellent little book, but, like all other histories of English literature, defective in its presentation of essential bibliographical details.

Boileau Despréaux (Nicolas). The Satires of Boileau Despréaux and his "Address to the King." Done into English verse by Hayward Porter. With notes and a biographical sketch, and also a translation of Boileau's "Essay on Satire." Illustrated by James Magnus. Glasgow: Jas. Maclehose & Sons, 1904. 8°, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", pp. xviii. + 126. Price 2s. 6d. net.

A useful translation of a French satirical poet, whose works are very seldom to be found in any recent municipal library. Considering the part played by Boileau in French literature, and the constant references to him occurring in literary history, it is necessary that every Public Library should contain at least a selection of his works, and this admirable series of translations may be heartily recommended.

Dickens (Charles). Great expectations. London: T. Nelson and Sons, 1904. 8°, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", pp. 492. Price 2s. net.

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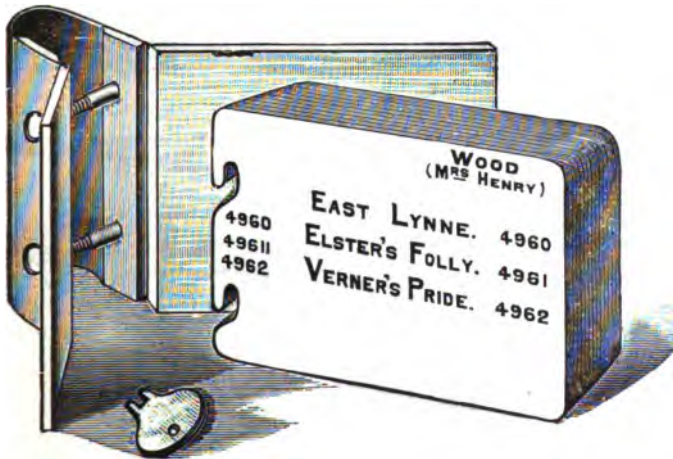
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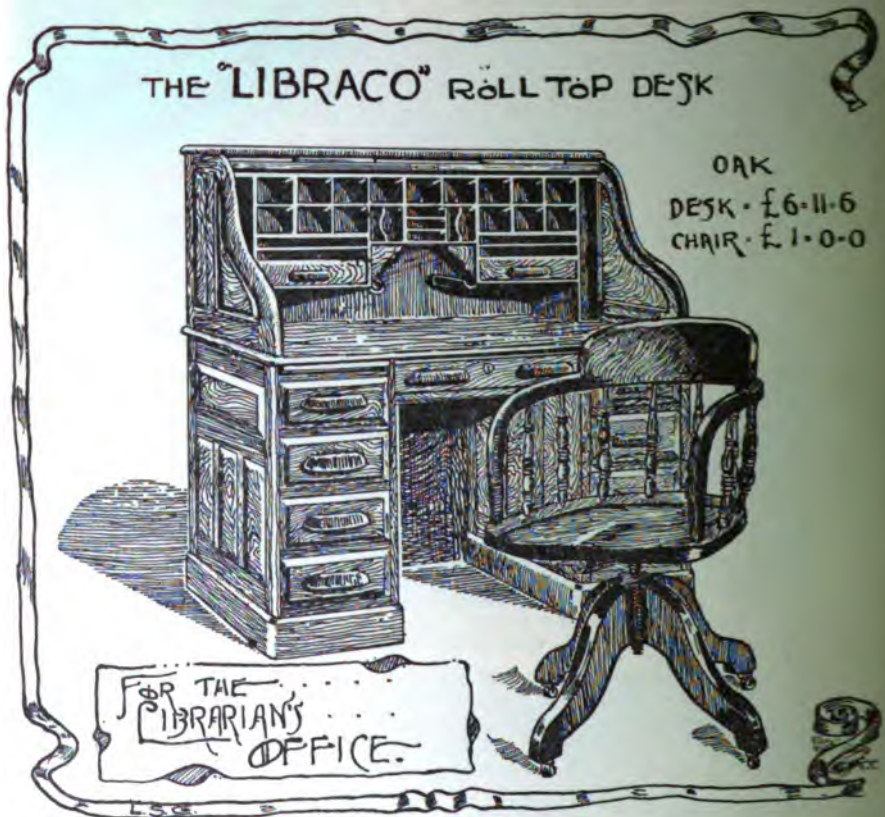
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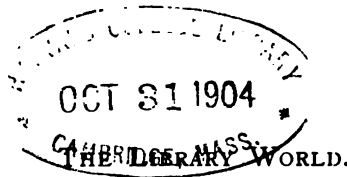
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THE NEWCASTLE MEETING OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, 1904.

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THE PLACE.

TO those who have been accustomed to think of Newcastle only as the home of coal and "The Keel Row," its general aspect will be found disappointingly clean and brisk. Although there is a lively air of business about the place, yet its crowds of pretty and well-dressed women, its fine shops, and imposing institutions, all contribute towards removing the wholly-erroneous impression which most strangers cherish, that Newcastle is the home of dirt and smoke and general unloveliness. Indeed, we know of only one other town of similar size, which has been visited by the L. A. which can be compared to it for the energetic bustle of its streets, keenness of its air, and good looks of its women, and that is Aberdeen, where, if possible, the energy is more energetic, and the air even more keen. We shall not compare the ladies! Leaving the Tyne to trace its unlovely course to the sea, and dealing only with that part of the town which, for one busy week, formed the camp of all kinds of librarians, it may be stated that the institutions of Newcastle which possess interest for librarians are many and varied. The Lit. and Phil. is one of the principal centres of literary and social activity, and its library, lecture rooms, social departments, and other features make it one of the most influential institutions in the town. Its appearance is impressive, and its well-ordered and well-classified shelves appeal to every librarian who has the slightest progressive instinct. It has historic memories over a century old, and in many ways attracts readers and supporters in a manner which no municipal library can as yet pretend to emulate. Perhaps the secret lies in the amount of selectness which such an institution can afford its members, and the feeling that one can mix with other subscribers without any fear of accidentally consorting with a slum-dweller or ambitious pitman! With all its merits, and they are many, the Lit. and Phil. has not yet learned the supreme secret of making a conversazione attractive and bright. But this slight criticism applies to other Newcastle institutions visited by the L. A. No doubt the failures arose from a misunderstanding on the part of the local committee, in assuming too confidently that Librarians could amuse themselves. They cannot. They are the dullest dogs on earth, unless someone takes them in hand and amuses them. But this is all by the way, and may seem a little ungracious, though it is only meant as a guide for the future.

The Public Library of the town also focussed a considerable amount of interest and attention. It is a nice building, centrally placed, well stocked with books, but awfully burdened with an

INHERITANCE. This takes the form of a huge indicator, which winds round two large rooms in convolutions like a gigantic sea-serpent, and effectually cuts the public off from the treasures of literature concealed behind. To add to its disconcerting inefficiency as an aid to readers, it is dotted all over with intimations that hundreds of books are "Discarded" or withdrawn for other reasons, and it is, on the whole, difficult to imagine an engine better calculated to excite public disgust, and create disbelief in the utility of Public Libraries. It also demonstrates the folly of installing indicators of any kind in a large and rapidly-growing library for all classes of literature, and there could be no stronger argument in favour of limiting the indicator to fiction, than this enormous rampart of inanimate and exasperating pigeon-holes. There is one undoubted advantage, however, which it does possess, and that is its size, coupled with its massive construction. Should the High-level Bridge ever break down, which God forbid! here, in readiness for the emergency, the Corporation will find an admirable temporary substitute, in an indicator which might almost serve as a barrage for the Nile! The present Executive is not responsible for this monstrosity, and in all other respects the Newcastle libraries are splendidly conducted by Mr. Anderton and his highly-efficient staff. The two branches are also admirable examples of well-conducted and efficiently-officered libraries, and on the whole, the Novocastrians—we believe this is what they *like* to be called—have every reason to be proud of their library system. But that Indicator —!!

It would be tedious to go through the many institutions which exist as evidences of Newcastle's intellectual and material prosperity but reference should certainly be made to the handsome and well-appointed building of the Durham College of Medicine, in which the conference met. This is a very fine building indeed, and was well-adapted for a general meeting place, although the room in which the papers were read was rather large and badly-arranged for the purpose.

THE EXHIBITIONS.

Several good exhibitions were held, but by far the most instructive and interesting was one of the best current magazines of the world, selected by representative librarians of the chief foreign countries, and arranged by Mr. James Duff Brown, of Finsbury. Nearly 400 important periodicals were shown, many of them of great value, and most of them quite novel. A "Classified List" of about 800 of these current periodicals had been prepared, and this can be had from the Assistant Secretary of the Association for 6d. This splendid and imposing exhibition was arranged on sloping desks all round the hall in which the meetings were held, and excited great interest and comment among the members. It is quite certain that every librarian who took the trouble to examine the magazines exhibited, will sooner or later revise the selection of his own library, in order to include some of the beautiful foreign artistic, scientific, and technical magazines which were shown. The general opinion seemed to be that only in regard to its miscellaneous magazines did the United Kingdom thoroughly hold its own,

and even here it was closely rivalled by the United States. But in Art, Science, Philology, Education, Bibliography, Technology, Music, History, etc., it was generally felt that there was much to be learned from the magazine publications of other countries, particularly Germany, France, the Netherlands, and the United States.

The "Best Books of 1903" Exhibition was held in a room by itself, but as it was closely packed on a few standard shelves and was devoid of a catalogue, it was generally felt to be somewhat of a failure. The selection was larger and more representative than that shown at Leeds, but its value was considerably lessened by its inadequate display and the lack of a printed guide. We suggest that in future this important part of the L. A. Conference should be properly exhibited on tables, like the exhibition of Current Periodicals, and that the show should be invariably accompanied by a complete list of the books selected. An interesting selection of books, catalogues, prints, and appliances illustrating the work of forming local collections was shown in another class-room, where Mr. R. T. Richardson, of the Central Reference Library, had laid out the specimens with judgment and taste. As a supplement to the papers on Local Collections, the exhibition was useful and attractive. Perhaps the best contributions to this exhibition were the admirable collections of photographs sent by Messrs. Radford, of Nottingham, and Jast, of Croydon.

It would be unfair to pass over without mention, the splendid exhibitions of old books, MSS., and Bewick engravings, &c., shown at the Public Library and Lit. and Phil., on the evenings when the Receptions were held. There were sufficient interesting specimens to keep the enthusiastic bibliophile occupied for a week, and as they were nicely displayed in cases there was little difficulty in seeing most of the exhibits. It may interest admirers of the late Jamie Allen, the piper of Rothbury, to know that one visitor, not a librarian, mistook the Northumbrian bagpipes, shown at the Lit. and Phil., for a siphon! The Hancock collection of Birds, and the display of Bewick's engravings at the Natural History Museum, were a revelation and a delight to all who were fortunate enough to see them.

THE PAPERS AND DISCUSSIONS.

On the whole, the papers and discussions were less stimulating, less able, and less interesting than those offered at Leeds. The discussions, for one thing, were not, as at Leeds, efficiently organized, and there was rather more desultory talking-at-large on the part of people with nothing to say, than was either necessary or desirable. There was also quite an epidemic of the "personal testimony" kind of speech, in which listeners were bored to death with piffing details of how things are managed at Bookly-in-the-Hole, and other centres of provincial and local egotism. It is extraordinary how impotent many librarians are, when it comes to a question of discussing broad general principles. However much one may admire their persistency in droning away about "*our* experience," and "what *we* did," and so forth, the patient man must be excused if he sometimes consigns such horrid bores

to Sheol, or to somewhere less notorious, but equally efficacious in stifling bores, and keeping drones in custody! Three papers stand out as superior to all the others in suggestion, helpfulness, and inspiration, and these are The President's Address, Professor Wright's "Function of a Public Reference Library," and Mr. Savage's "Principles of Annotation." None of the others, save, perhaps, Mr. Brown's unpretending paper on the selection of current Periodicals, were either novel or stimulating. The President's Address was a kind of Review of the historical development of libraries, in which he dwelt with all necessary emphasis on the great importance of the ancient libraries of Assyria and Greece. His clever references to the libraries of the ancients reminded us of the library assistant who couldn't realize the importance of Asia Minor as a great cradle-land of history and tradition. He said, in answer to a question, that he always thought the ancient monarchy of Pergamos was near Athens in modern Greece, and that Asia Minor was only celebrated for cigarettes and carpets! So it has always been with regard to the whole of this historical graveyard of past magnificence, and librarians owe Dr. Hodgkin their deepest gratitude for endeavouring to rehabilitate the Assyrian and other book-depositories of the old world. His address should be read by every library assistant as a plain and easy introduction to the early history of libraries. Those who do so are not likely to perpetrate the blunder of the youthful cataloguer, who, when cataloguing a book on the Nicene Creed, and making a reference to the Council of Nice (Nicea), declared that "Those old Johnnies did themselves jolly well, holding their conferences in the Riviera!" On one point we feel that we must humbly acknowledge Dr. Hodgkin to be a perfect master. His pronunciation of the name Assur-ban-i-pal was simply superb, and we are quite certain that everyone who heard him will feel a revival of interest in this enlightened monarch, who will, perhaps, be better recognised by some as Sardanapalus. Perhaps the most valuable part of Dr. Hodgkin's address was that in which he spoke of the avalanche of rubbishy books which were poured from the modern press, and threatened to choke the higher kinds of literary production. The duty of the librarian would be to sift this mass and to place before readers, only such works as possessed the attributes of sound facts or style. "As literature increased in volume, and science in complexity, and as the path into the Sacred Grove became more obstructed by the jungle growth of worthless books, a new and more important office than that of arranging and cataloguing books would open before the librarian, and he would be able, with increasing success, to claim his lawful and honourable place as Hierophant of Literature." Weighty words these, and full of a warning significance to librarians who are charged with the responsibility of book-selection. As a matter of fact, there are very few librarians who have graduated at the Sacred College which produces High Priests of Literature, and, although book-selection is such an important part of modern librarianship, it is still that department which is least regarded, least cultivated, and most often conducted on haphazard or unscientific lines.

THE PLEA FOR LIBRARIES.

Three papers were devoted to Library Apologetics on the first day of the Conference, and the discussions on them were on the usual well-worn lines. The first was entitled :—

“The Elevating Influence of Public Libraries,” by Alderman Henry W. Newton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The second :—

“The Function of a Public Reference Library in relation to the Secondary and Higher Education of a Community,” by Professor Mark R. Wright, Durham College of Science, Newcastle ; read in his absence by W. E. Doubleday, Hampstead.

and the third :—

“Methods of Popularising Books other than Novels,” by G. H. Elliott, Librarian, Belfast Public Libraries.

The most important point in the debates which ensued on the reading of these papers was Sir W. H. Bailey's criticism of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge which had, he stated, “for years been proclaiming it a heresy to use knowledge for the mere making of a living,” and furthermore had done little to advance the technical and industrial knowledge of the nation. Although several speakers commented on these statements, and endeavoured to show that the education given at Oxford and Cambridge had occasionally been productive of great business men, the feeling generally dominant in the public mind is, we fear, that these particular schools, with their mediæval methods and sickly atmosphere of aristocratic exclusiveness, have done little save produce an endless procession of fops, fools, and cricketers. It is well-known that large business houses, after bitter experience, will not employ Oxford or Cambridge graduates even as office-boys at 6s. per week, and if this is not a testimony to the utter uselessness of the education given at these universities, it is certainly clear proof that such men are not being properly equipped by their training for the ordinary business of life. The Oxford and Cambridge graduates who become prominent in life in other fields than literature or divinity, do so in spite of, rather than because of, the education they have received. The true bearing of all this is simply that the general public are more likely to be efficiently educated for all practical purposes in a well-selected municipal library, than in universities which are choked by useless traditions, and simply exist as infirmaries for the careful preservation of effete scholarship.

On Mr. Elliott's paper the question of Open Access to libraries was raised, and it was moved by Mr. Philip (Gravesend) and seconded by Mr. Soper (Exeter) that the Council of the L.A. should collect and publish certain statistics which would prove reliable guides to librarians and others who were engaged in devising methods of organizing new libraries. After discussion this proposal was defeated by a large majority, chiefly on the ground, we take it, that such figures would be no real guide to a question of policy like open access versus other

systems, and also because the information suggested for tabulation would be difficult, if not impossible, to collect.

BUSINESS.

At an evening session held on August 30th, the chief business was the consideration of the Annual Report of the Council, on which a strong demonstration against Mr. Jast was expected, owing to a vast amount of preliminary talk, and the distribution of signed and anonymous circulars, protesting against his selection as a Delegate to represent the L.A. at the Library Conference at St. Louis. The whole affair from beginning to end was so petty, meaningless, undignified and frothy, that we think it will be most charitable simply to state that the protests were virtually laughed out of existence. Next morning, Mr. Goss made a personal explanation, in which he repudiated a most disgraceful and malignant circular reflecting upon Mr. Jast, which, with an insulting correction, had been circulated among members. This document was anonymous, and Mr. Goss desired it to be known that he knew nothing about it or its authorship.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

A long discussion took place on Wednesday morning, August 31st, on a "Preliminary Report of the Committee on Public Education and Public Libraries to the Newcastle Meeting of the Library Association, 1904," which had been printed and circulated. This report represented the first-fruits of the joint conference at Leeds last year, and was submitted for discussion in order to elicit expressions of opinion and suggestions. The report contains a number of useful suggestions for co-operation between libraries and other educational institutions, and states that the voluminous returns from public educational institutions, on which it is based, will be published in a tabulated form later. The proposals and suggestions of the Committee were practically accepted without important reservations by everyone who took part in the debate, and it was resolved that, with slight amendments, the report as it stands should be printed and sold to library authorities and others who required copies for distribution. In the course of the discussion, Mr. John Cotton Dana, Public Library, Newark, New Jersey, U.S., made an interesting statement on the work of the school libraries in America, and pointed out that school collections of books controlled by the teachers had not been a success in the United States.

LOCAL COLLECTIONS.

The only valid excuse for devoting a whole session to this threadbare and stale subject was that it gave the local librarian a glorious chance of describing his own local practice in his own local way. The discussion on the three papers by Messrs. Wright, R. T. Richardson and Duckworth was a complete exhibition of local egotism, and Mr. W. H. K. Wright (who occupied the chair), allowed the conversation on local collecting to drag along a whole afternoon, with a tiresome monotony which, as Carlyle might have said, was sufficient to "Chill

the soul under the ribs of Death!" So much was this the case, and so much were the various antiquaries absorbed in magnifying the importance of the directories of Little Pedlington, &c., that when it came to the time for discussing the only fresh contribution to the subject—Mr. Duckworth's paper on "Photographic Surveys"—it was snuffed out by a casual remark from the chairman to the effect that such efforts were merely matters of detail! We shall be very sorry to see this Local Collection question raised again, in any shape or form, during the next twenty years. It is positively becoming a more oppressive nuisance than the fiction question, and has the added horror of stirring up more bores than any other subject. Now that Mr. Jast, who must have been responsible for this infliction, has got all the points he wanted to get, or to show off, in connection with his Surrey Survey, perhaps he will let the topic rest in its own local obscurity. The only compensating feature of an arid discussion was the kind forbearance of the natural history crank, who did *not* urge upon collectors the paramount necessity of preserving photographs of Surrey rainbows, on the ground that they were radically different from those of Hampshire!

BOOK SELECTION AND ANNOTATION.

Three papers were read on this most important subject on Thursday, Sept. 1st, at the forenoon session. By some extraordinary oversight, the principal department of the subject of Book Selection was not included in the series, and members were regaled with a practical, but uninspiring, paper on the accession of books and how to label them, instead of receiving a full exposition of the philosophical and utilitarian principles which should govern the selection of books for the public service. The three papers were:—"Practical Accession Work," by Septimus Pitt, Superintendent of Branches, Glasgow Public Libraries.

"The Principles of Annotation," by E. A. Savage, Public Library, Bromley.

"The Selection of Periodicals," by J. D. Brown, Public Libraries, Finsbury.

The paper on accession work, as was to be expected, was a full, but rather commonplace, account of the everyday routine of a large library, in all that relates to the preparation of books for public use, and must have sounded to most of the audience, like an exhortation to carry coals to Newcastle. Naturally, this paper could only elicit sordid details concerning the average price of books at certain centres of culture, where literature seems to be bought at so much per lineal yard, and the cheaper the better. We should like to see the catalogue of the masterpieces of literature which can be assembled at the paltry ransom of 1s. 9d. per masterpiece. Of course, our old friend "Pamphlets" turned up in this discussion, as lively as ever, owing to the painful anxiety of the President to know why tracts on subjects like History, Science, Theology, &c., could not be kept of uniform size in each class, so as to facilitate filing. We gathered that he was prepared to invoke parliamentary interference in order to secure this desirable uniformity.

Mr. Savage's paper on "Annotation," perhaps the most able contribution to the practical work of the Conference, dealt with annotations in library catalogues, and supported the view that criticism in such publications was unnecessary and uncalled for. He took the view that notes in catalogues should be on the lines of informative rather than critical analyses of books, and made out a strong case in support of his contention. Mr. Baker, of Wallasey, who opened the discussion, rather spoiled his plea in favour of criticism in annotations, by undue anxiety to condemn some samples of sane annotation he had culled from the pages of the *Library World*. His examples were most unfortunately chosen, because they rather proved Mr. Savage's case, while, at the same time, they were successful in showing that when Mr. Baker spoke of criticism he really meant personal opinion. For instance, it is not criticism to state that "Martin Chuzzlewit" is Dickens' masterpiece, or that Mark Tapley is one of the most humorous characters in fiction. Such statements, when not nonsensical, are pure matters of opinion, on which hardly any two critics or readers would agree, and they are useless, and even misleading, for purposes of catalogue annotation. Apart from his unfortunate choice of horrible examples of informative annotation, Mr. Baker rather obscured the issue by dragging in the much wider question of selective bibliographies and abstract guides to literature, which is a different matter altogether from any question relating to the amount and kind of annotation which should appear in Public Library catalogues. In this course he was followed by Mr. Dana, who made an ingenious, but transparent, attempt to show that criticism and "evaluation" were two different things. He evaluated the work of Iles and other Americans in the field of selective and annotated bibliography at a rate which it certainly does not deserve, and spoke, in his large American way, of the wonders which were one day to be accomplished in the United States, by various remarkable agencies, which, as yet, appear to exist only in that vast realm of "Things-we-mean-to-do," so much patronised in some circles across the Atlantic. None of the other contributions to the discussion call for special mention. The majority of them were favourable to Mr. Savage's argument in support of informative notes, and it is quite evident that the critical evaluators have a mighty task before them in converting librarians to their views, so far, at least, as library catalogues are concerned.

Mr. Brown's paper on the Selection of Periodicals was a brief and pithy plea for the better representation of the higher class magazine in Public Libraries, as a continuous supplement to the text-books, and as a sure means of raising the standard of reading-room work. In connection with the large collection of examples of periodicals of all nationalities which he had assembled, and the printed catalogue which he had prepared, this paper should prove of great value to organising committees and librarians when selecting magazines for libraries. The paper was imperfectly discussed, in a small meeting, owing to the stampede which took place because of the near approach of the luncheon hour, and we should counsel the powers-that-be to arrange

their programmes in future, so that papers of great professional interest shall not be put down for discussion at the fag-ends of sessions.

CATALOGUING.

At Birmingham in 1902, the L.A. appointed a special committee to consider the whole question of Rules for Cataloguing, and to submit a report on the subject with a code if found necessary. On the afternoon of Thursday, September 1st, a draft code of rules was submitted by Mr. E. Wyndham Hulme, present honorary secretary of the committee, representing the stage to which the labours of the special committee had been carried. The draft was submitted for discussion and suggestions, without any definite purpose beyond evoking criticism and opinions. These were forthcoming in plenty, and if some of them will not prove very illuminating to the committee, they served to while away the time. Only two practical suggestions were made. One from Mr. Lyster, of Dublin, to the effect that the code should be prepared on the most scientific and consistent lines conceivable by the committee, without further reference to the Association at large, and that it should be printed when completed, and issued as the L.A. Code. Every Librarian would be at liberty to adopt as much or as little of the code as he felt disposed, or as the requirements of his library demanded, and the Association would not then be forced to issue a code full of concessions to this or that prejudice, or contradictions, or alternatives, but simply a series of natural, consistent and scientific rules, which could be used as a basis by anyone. This suggestion seemed to meet with general acceptance, as did another one emanating from Mr. Hulme, to the effect that the Catalogue Rules Committee should endeavour to co-operate with the Americans in securing a uniform code of rules for general use in both countries.

RATE LIMITATION.

Concurrently with the meeting on catalogue rules, a committee's section was held in an adjoining room at which Councillor Abbott, of Manchester, described the present position of the Bill for removing the limit to the Library Rate, and called for further support and effort. It was agreed to continue the Legislation Committee, and to carry on the agitation in favour of the abolition of the rate limitation till it was successful.

EDUCATION OF LIBRARY ASSISTANTS.

Mr. H. R. Tedder explained to the Committee's Section the work which had been undertaken by the Education Committee of the L.A. in the direction of providing technical training for library assistants. He described the new Syllabus prepared in connection with the Lecture Courses at the London School of Economics; the Examinations Scheme; and the proposed Correspondence Classes; and paid a tribute to Mr. H. D. Roberts for his unremitting efforts to establish the system of training for librarianship on a substantial and sound basis. Votes of thanks were carried to both Mr. Tedder and Mr. Roberts for their excellent work in connection with the L.A. Education Committee,

and everyone who knows what has been accomplished in recent years can cordially support the somewhat belated vote of thanks extended to those gentlemen. The tact of Mr. Tedder as chairman, and the untiring devotion and energy of Mr. Roberts as honorary secretary, deserve the highest possible recognition at the hands of the Association. It is not too much to say that, but for Mr. Roberts' patience, interest, and hard work, the Educational Scheme of the L.A. would have collapsed long ago. We heartily commend the plea made by Messrs. Tedder and Roberts, on behalf of a more liberal support of the educational work of the L.A. by Library Committees, and feel assured that in securing efficiency of staff, library authorities are taking a long step towards obtaining that public and State recognition which is universally claimed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At the election of the Council, a tie resulted, in which Messrs. Brittain, Carter and Ogle secured the same number of votes for country member of Council. The difficulty was removed by the withdrawal of Mr. J. J. Ogle, of Bootle, who stated that his educational duties took him away from the library side of the work, and that he would consequently withdraw his name as a candidate. This decision enabled the meeting to receive a complete report on the Election of Council, and saved the President from the labour of drawing lots. Mr. Ogle was at one time a prominent and valuable member of Council, and his loss will be much regretted. As at present constituted, the Council remains practically as before, with the exception of the following changes :—

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

F. J. Burgoyne, Lambeth Public Libraries, *in place of* the late T. G. Law, Edinburgh.

LONDON COUNCILLORS.

Henry V. Hopwood, Patent Office, *in place of* F. J. Burgoyne, London.

COUNTRY COUNCILLORS.

Councillor Abbott, Manchester, *in place of* J. J. Ogle, Bootle.

The attendance of members was not quite so large as at Leeds, and a considerable number of well-known librarians were absent for the first time for a long period. Among such we missed Messrs. Ballinger, Burgoyne, Guppy, Garnett, Aldred, Davis, Maclauchlan, Cotgreave, Mason, Martin, Bull, Pink, and many other regular attenders. On the other hand, Mr. MacAlister, the popular ex-secretary, appeared, looking remarkably well after his recent serious illness, and he was heartily welcomed by all his old friends. We were also pleased to find Mr. Inkster acting in his capacity of secretary, with his usual amiability and ability, and trust we may accept his appearance as a symptom of his restoration to good health.

The meeting for 1905 has been fixed for Cambridge, when the L.A. will assist to celebrate the opening of the Public Library, and the jubilee of its first and only librarian, Mr. John Pink, whose record dates from 1855, and establishes his title to the distinction of being the oldest municipal librarian in the country.

It is probable that Bradford will be the meeting-place in 1906, as we believe a cordial invitation from that town has been received by the Council.

THE SOCIAL SIDE.

The pic-nic side of the Conference was very successful as a whole, and, thanks to a week of fine weather, everyone was able to enjoy the various functions arranged by the Local Reception Committee. There seemed to be more ladies present than usual, which perhaps accounted for the occasionally meagre attendances at the discussions.

The Social programme opened on Monday, Aug. 29th, with a Reception at the Public Library, by invitation of the Public Libraries Committee. The whole of the Central Library building was thrown open, and in addition to the usual music and cup-and-saucer refreshments, there was a very good exhibition of books and engravings. Mrs. J. W. Pease opened the special "Bewick Collection," bequeathed by the late Mr. J. W. Pease, and now housed in a special room formed in the library for the purpose. A catalogue of the collection was presented to each of the guests. The spectacle of a few hundred people wandering about the rooms in search of chairs, suggested, almost irresistibly, the old joke about there being plenty to sit on, but no where to put it. A Reception without plenty of chairs is not so much a pleasure as a stern martyrdom.

On Tuesday, August 30th, a most successful Garden Party was given by His Worship the Mayor (Alderman A. P. Andersen), at Jesmond Dene (= Ravine, Glen, Chine, Kloof), a lovely public park and sylvan dell in the environs of Newcastle. This was well-attended and proved one of the most enjoyable features of the meeting. On Wednesday, August 31st, the Mayor entertained the members to Luncheon at the Grand Assembly Rooms, Barras Bridge, and here, again, His Worship scored, by doing everything in the right style with the maximum of comfort. It was pointed out, during the Luncheon, that the Mayor was a mere bachelor, but it is quite evident that this in no way interferes with his ability as an entertainer, nor with his possession of first-rate ideas on the subject of Garden Parties and Luncheons. The speeches being bright and brief, added considerably to the pleasure of the occasion.

At 8 p.m., on the same day, a *Conversazione* was given at the Lit. and Phil., by invitation of the Committees of the Literary and Philosophical Society, and of other local libraries. Here was shown a fine collection of local books and prints, and, in addition, the guests were given a lecture by Dr. Spence Watson, and shown lantern views of Old Newcastle. The music was also good, and the presence of chairs was found to be an immense relief.

The Annual Dinner of the Association was held at the Old Assembly Rooms, on Thursday, September 1st, when about seventy members and guests assembled. The speeches were of the usual dry, statistical, would-be-funny type, and constituted the only entertainment. As only about forty or fifty members were present out of nearly 200 delegates, it is evident that there is something radically wrong with this function, which ought to be one of the most important of the social features of the Conference. Instead, it is the most unpopular of all, and it is evident that something requires to be done to make it more attractive and successful.

On Friday, September 2nd, the majority of the members went on a visit to Alnwick Castle, by invitation of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland. Here they were shown over the great castle, with its many fine remains indicating the strong feudal fortress, and, on the other hand, the beautiful library and other comparatively modern rooms, standing out in marked contrast as evidences of more recent culture and luxury. Like His Worship the Mayor, His Grace the Duke is an able entertainer, and after a most admirable luncheon, the guests were asked to consider themselves at home, and to ramble all over the grounds as they listed. This most of them did, after heartily thanking the Duke's representatives for his hospitality, and a most agreeable and memorable afternoon was spent by the members in the beautiful grounds of the Castle, and in the quaint old Northumbrian town. Alnwick will probably rank in most memories as one of the pleasantest outings ever enjoyed by the L.A. On Saturday, September 3rd, a smaller party visited Durham and viewed the Cathedral and other objects of interest in the city; but most of the members had returned home on Friday, or early on Saturday morning, so that the Twenty-seventh Annual Meeting practically came to an end with the visit to Alnwick.

Various groups were photographed during the Conference, at the Natural History Museum, Jesmond Dene, and Alnwick Castle, and they may be had, price 5/- each, from Mr. R. E. Ruddock, Grand Studio, Goldsmiths' Buildings, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

On the whole, the Newcastle meeting was one of the most successful of recent years, and its organization reflects great credit on Mr. Anderton, and those who were more particularly associated with him in attending to the numerous and varied demands of delegates. Mr. J. Walton, of the Victoria Branch Library, Mr. J. Charlton Deas, Mr. Gibson, and others whose names we did not learn, all worked well and efficiently for the comfort of visitors, and deserve the warmest thanks of all for their unflinching courtesy and kindness.



NOTES ON THE LATE CONFERENCE.

By R. J.

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EDITORIAL.—The following notes have come into our hands in a curious manner. They appear to have been written at various times during the course of the recent Conference, but were probably completed and sent off together at the end of the week, from Scarborough, whither the writer had gone down to recruit after his exertions at Newcastle. Unfortunately, in sending off the documents, he muddled the envelopes, so that the Chairman of the Little Buncum Committee received the private and confidential account of the week's proceedings, whilst the official one went to his friend, Mr. T. (referred to below), who found that he was too late when he re-addressed it to the Library Committee. As the Buncum Committee are now advertising for a new librarian, and Mr. R. J.— will exercise his talents henceforth in a new walk of life, we felt that we could do him no harm by publishing the whole correspondence, if the term may be used when the answers are not forthcoming. As a matter of fact, one of R. J.—'s correspondents will have to answer to his committee upon the points raised by one of these letters. We are sending Mr. R. J.— a cheque for a moderate amount, for this, his first contribution to literature, and trust that it will give him a good start in his new sphere of activity. We understand that he has been appointed literary sub-editor of the *Daily L—r*.

Sept. 3rd, 1904

DEAR T.,—I enclose press copy of my report on the Conference, which I did for Jack W—, who is spending the week at Skegness instead of at Newcastle.

I quite agree with you that it's not worth while you London chaps coming here if the auditor won't allow your ex's., and that pretty liberally, too. Some of them talk about our wanting to improve ourselves. But I don't consider that's our business. We get our training before we are appointed, and if the committees want extras—culture, higher qualifications, and all that sort of thing, we ought to get them at their expense. They don't make it worth our while. Let them double our salaries, and we'll soon double our qualifications. The better the price the better the article; that goes without saying. The proper way to raise the status of the librarian, as some of them put it, is to give him a decent screw. Look at doctors, lawyers, and even schoolmasters, what they get! Here, some of those mad chaps talk about our annotating the books, and reading them into the bargain, lecturing and all the rest of it! What I say is this—I'm not paid to be a critic nor to lecture; if they want me to be a university man, let them pay me a proper salary, and I'll do it.

That's the point, I take it, of all your conferences and summer schools, and books on librarianship. Give us the money first, and we'll get the education afterwards.

Yours sincerely,

ROBERT J—.

DEAR JACK,—Full report of Conference herewith, one for the Committee (alter the language a bit, mind), and rough diary of what actually took place (on strict q.t.). Hope you had a good time at Skeg.

Yours in haste

R. J.

MONDAY.—Did not go to reception. Thought 'twas only going to be a formal affair, but felt rather disappointed when I heard that claret cup was served at the juvenile counter.

TUESDAY.—By a bit of bad management on part of Committee, the proceedings commenced at 9.30, which is absurd. Ten o'clock is quite early enough. Did not get in till President was finishing address. He says the future librarian ought to do a lot more than cataloguing and arranging books; he ought to teach people what they should read, write guide-books and things like that. He wants him to be a sort of hierophant and initiate people into his eleusinian mysteries. Seems to me that's rather a large order, if we've got to be an expert on every subject in the whole library. I've got quite enough to do telling them what's the last best novel. I've got no time for hierophanting, philosophanting, and writing annotated guides on every subject you like to name. Besides, we're not paid to do it. Other papers were all about the usual topics—elevating influence of libraries; capital thing for working classes, keep them out of public-house, &c. I know all that by heart, so went for a walk to the Eldon Grill till the discussion cooled off. Garden party in the afternoon. Thought at first this meant dropping one session, but had to go to business meeting at eight. Why can't they have it in the morning, same as they used to, and so shorten the meetings for papers, which are much too long? They actually read *all* the papers now! Garden party quite a success. Miss X., in prettier costume even than last night—and more of it. Refreshment business was a fixture, so you could go in as often as you liked. Newcastle is certainly a very public-spirited place. Expected fracas at business meeting did not come off. G-s moved amendment to obliterate Mr. J-t, but Chairman ruled this could not be done. It was stated by a correspondent that J-t's real name is Wrxtlrzschbp Sobieski, and that he is the representative of the ancient kings of Lithuania, in consequence of which it would be a direct insult to the Republic, if we consider their democratic tendencies, to send him as our official delegate to the States. This was over-ruled by the Chairman, who stated that he had seen Mr. J-t's certificate of berth, and that he could tell the Association on the best authority that both Mr. J-t's parents had been vaccinated according to European law. D-bl-y made excellent speech, patting J-t on the back with one hand and knocking him down (metaphorically) with the other. Said the members and himself would have their eye on J-t even in the wilds of America, and would bring him to book if he ventured to express any of his own views on anything whatever. I should suggest that the Association appoint a special committee to prepare J-t's speeches for him beforehand, and to draw up a code of rules for his guidance on the voyage over and throughout

his sojourn in America. Auld Lang Syne could hardly be prevented from singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow," as a vote of increased confidence to J-t, who was visibly affected as the moment of parting approached.

WEDNESDAY.—The morning was devoted to the report of special committee appointed to promote amicable relations between Public Libraries and public education, which proved a fine illustration of what could be done under any state of things than the existing dispensation. Some of the proposals were, however, quite of a practicable nature, and should be adopted without delay. The librarian is to assist teachers in managing the schools, and teachers are to fill up their spare time by rendering assistance generally at the library, especially on busy evenings, when they are always at liberty. Both parties are to offer each other advice freely. As a matter of fact they do that now, but the scheme is to promote more friendliness and amiability all round, and the friendship is to be cemented by allowing them a free hand in utilising the funds under their control for raising each other's salaries, &c., and likewise to arrange for mutual invitations to conferences and other mixed meetings for the discussion of still more intimate terms of union.

Lunch provided by the Mayor, and an excellent one it was, too. I was afraid, however, that it would be cut short prematurely by the afternoon debate, so I called on the local Alderman for another toast. He is always ready to oblige. My suggestion was speedily and uproariously taken up; there was a general shout for a speech, and he was soon on his legs. This meant an extra bottle at our end of the table, but I could not work it a second time. The discussion on local collections was of no importance, as we have been doing all that at Little Buncum for the last ten years, so I went and had a lie down, and was quite fresh for the conversazione in the evening. This, I was sorry to find, like all the other functions, took place in a library. I think this is a serious mistake. We librarians see quite enough of books in our daily routine, without having them thrust upon our notice on festive occasions. The better class of refreshments were hid away at the top of the house, and were not discovered by many of the guests till a comparatively late hour. I enjoyed the whole evening immensely.

THURSDAY. (*See Editor's note*). Did not go to the dinner. Ex.'s don't run to it, and can't see that the rank and file are called upon to pay 7s. 6d. for participating in one of the dullest functions ever conceived in the mind of man. I had a capital evening elsewhere, but need not record the incidents here.

FRIDAY.—Went to Alnwick with the crowd, by invitation of the Duke, who was not present in person. It is rather curious that we seldom do come across the actual wearer of the coronet in all our visits to ducal habitations. But the reception by deputy was most brilliant and magnificent, culminating in a champagne luncheon, served in unstinted Northumbrian style. I thought myself that the handsomest compliment paid us was the series of effigies the Duke had had

placed along the front of the walls and towers of Alnwick Castle. These represented distinguished members of the Library Association, all on a colossal scale, and portrayed in extremely life-like and characteristic attitudes. Mr. J-t was to be seen, on the poop of an Atlantic liner, waving the Union Jack to his sorrowing friends. In another place stood the figure of Mr. D-bd-y, with powerful opera-glasses, following the movements of Mr. J-t on the other side of the ocean. Mr. G-s was represented in the act of hurling a most formidable javelin, and another statue, which I could not identify, being rather short-sighted, as throwing a stink-pot at our esteemed delegate. Besides these, there were the President and the Treasurer, with their badges of office; also Auld Lang Syne singing "Rule Britannia" through a megaphone, to cheer up Mr. J-t in his dumb pilgrimage. There were many other familiar forms, including an infuriated Reader smashing up the Newcastle indicator with a chunk of coal: very realistic and pretty. The delicacy of the compliment was enhanced by its unobtrusiveness. I did not observe, for my own part, that the figures were those of our friends till after the luncheon.

SATURDAY.—Some of the members went to Durham to see more libraries. I had really promised the wife to get home early, but could not resist Y's invitation to run down with him to Scarborough, so told her I wanted a change after the week's work, which I certainly did.

To the Chairman and Library Committee of Little Buncum.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to present report on the Conference of the Library Association, which, in accordance with your instructions, I attended at Newcastle, and which, I may add, has again supplied me with useful information, and an incentive to my work in this library during the next twelve months. A large number of admirable papers were read, and I was much struck by the freshness and originality with which the speakers treated views that have been dealt with on practically the same lines year after year. Nothing is more forcible than repetition, especially if ably done, and I look forward with keener and keener anticipation to the time when these excellent proposals will bear fruit in actual practice. On the subject of the Elevating Influence of Public Libraries, I had the privilege of stating what had been done for this desirable object in Little Buncum under the auspices of the Library Committee, and I should have described the services rendered by our admirable and highly-appreciated Bulletin in detail, but my speech was cut short by the President, who limited me to the allotted five minutes. I had, however, a second opportunity of enlarging on this important topic, of which I availed myself to show what an object lesson exists in the Little Buncum catalogue, the bulletin, the committee, and the library generally. There was considerable applause, although the librarian of Great Buncum, who, as you are aware, is jealous of our success, endeavoured to call me to order.

The most eloquent papers—probably 75 per cent. of the whole—dealt with the future of the Public Library as an integral part of the national machinery, the scholar's paradise, the working man's university, the antidote to the public-house, with the Librarian, as the President finely expressed it, in supreme charge as hierophant, philosopher and friend. A special committee have dealt with this momentous scheme in all its details, and have approved of the idea, although they think it cannot be carried out just yet. In the course of the next twelve months they are going to add some finishing touches to the scheme, showing library committees and school authorities exactly what they ought to do to attain this end, as soon as funds permit. It is hoped that several millionaires will come forward at once when the proposals are made public.

As in former years, a number of papers described plans and objects that are not likely to be actually practicable under the conditions existing upon this planet. But as a speaker very aptly put it, "ideals are no good if you can live up to them." By prompting the President, who kindly put the enquiry as his own, I was able to secure the best professional advice as to the most suitable means for filing the pamphlets lately presented to our reference library by our esteemed chairman, the Mayor of Little Buncum.'

At a meeting for the revision of cataloguing rules I was enabled to secure some valuable hints upon the preparation of our new catalogue, a matter which has been causing me considerable anxiety. A resolution was passed unanimously calling upon every M.P. to vote for the abolition of the penny rate, and requesting all councillors and committee-men to spare no expense in securing such votes. I need not point out the desirability of this great reform, which will enable you, Gentlemen, to remunerate myself and staff, at a rate more suited to our abilities, and, incidentally, will have considerable effect upon the working of the library.

The intervals between the actual debates, apart from the time devoted to necessary refreshment, I spent in discussing questions of practical librarianship with other librarians, and in this way I have acquired a fund of most valuable ideas, which will no doubt be of the highest utility to yourselves and the library.

In conclusion, I beg to thank you, Gentlemen, for kindly granting me facilities to attend this most instructive Conference, which I could not otherwise have found it possible to attend, instructive as it was; and I have no hesitation in saying that this small outlay will prove among the most remunerative items of the year's expenditure. I have derived much pleasure as well as edification in my social contact with the other members of our estimable profession.

I am, your obedient servant,

ROBERT J——.

NOTE BY EDITOR.—Now that Mr. J. has spare time, we hope to secure his services occasionally as a contributor. We have, with his consent, abbreviated his interesting account of the debates, in order that he may deal with the various topics more exhaustively in future numbers of the *Library World*.

LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

O O C

THE following appreciation of the *Library World* appears in the August number of *The Library Journal*:—

"The *Library World* is to be congratulated upon entering its seventh year of existence. It has been, and we hope will continue to be, a sturdy champion of progressive methods, and an influence for good in English librarianship—even if now and then it has shaken up the dry bones of cherished prejudices and formalities rather unceremoniously."

The following appreciation of the **Office of Librarian** appeared in the *Newcastle Daily Journal*, Sept. 3rd, 1904. Without troubling to traverse its conclusions, which might be easily and effectively accomplished, we shall merely state our honest conviction that the attitude of the writer is caused by the mechanical methods in vogue at Newcastle for serving the public with books. Only a wretched wight, condemned to use the Newcastle indicator, would dream of belittling in this way the office of librarianship:—

"The librarian is a vendor of all wares, and is no more responsible than the grocer for the quality of goods he purveys. The ratepayers pay for the library, and they will have the books that please them, and will refuse to read those they do not like. It is no use lining the shelves of a free library with the recondite work of scientists, educationists and philosophers, or the classical treasures of past ages, if the people prefer the last bran-new flimsy tale that comes hot from the press. The less, therefore, we have of high-flown speeches about education and enlightenment in connection with such libraries, the less will shallow people deceive themselves that all this has anything to do with the function of the librarian. His duty is to arrange, classify, and catalogue, and to see that his customers, the ratepayers, get what they want. That is what the library has been provided for; and it is really the only function it is ever likely to discharge."

STILL another valuable appreciation of the **Office of Librarian**, this time from the Bumble point of view. The **Heston-Isleworth** District Council recently appointed a librarian for the new Public Library, and their choice fell upon Mr. D. Loinaz, a local gentleman, who resigned his seat as a District Councillor in order to become a candidate for the librarianship. Sixty-one applications were received, many from trained librarians, but it was decided to appoint the local gentleman by eleven votes to two. As the reasons for this choice are practically unique, we subjoin part of the discussion which took place at the Council meeting, so that librarians will be able to appreciate the value put upon professional education in certain quarters. We quote from the *Thames Valley Times*, August 17th, 1904:—

"When the application of Mr. Loinaz was read, the Chairman said that gentleman had sent in his resignation as a member of the Council, but of course nothing could be done in that matter at that meeting. In his letter, Mr. Loinaz said he should suggest to the committee that lectures be held in the library during the winter.—In answer to the Chairman, Mr. Loinaz said he thought a youth could give sufficient assistance to start with. He had not had experience as a librarian, but at the college in which he was trained there was a library of 20,000 books, and the students took it in charge in turns.—In answer to Mr. Robinson, Mr. Loinaz said he could claim to have a wide knowledge of books

and literature, both standard and current.—In answer to Father O'Sullivan as to the selection of books on philosophical and theological matters, Mr. Loinaz said the selection would have to be to a certain extent cosmopolitan.—The Chairman said the discretion as to the class of books would lie with the committee, not the librarian.—In answer to Mr. Davies, Mr. Loinaz said cataloguing for anyone who had a good knowledge of literature was an easy matter, and in spite of an absence of practical experience, he thought he would be able to carry out his duties properly.—Mr. Sahler proposed that the election be by show of hands.—Mr. Mecklenberg seconded.—Father O'Sullivan suggested that the voting be first by ballot, and then, the feeling of the Council having been obtained, they proceed to select the candidate.—Mr. Sahler's motion was carried, and then Mr. Mecklenberg proposed that Mr. Loinaz be elected to the position, and thought he would do his work splendidly. A professional librarian, as a rule, set out with a large selection of books that were not wanted.—Mr. Eva seconded, thinking Mr. Loinaz had given evidence of his abilities on the Council.—Mr. Robinson: I propose all the rest (laughter).—Mr. Palmer supported Mr. Loinaz's candidature, believing that he would be a worker, instead of, as some of the others appeared to be, occupants of snug berths.—Dr. Gordon proposed Mr. Baker, as he had had experience. It would be unfair to appoint to their library, which was just being opened and organized, a man of no experience whatever in libraries. Mr. Loinaz had only had the experience of lending out books in a theological college library, to which he (the speaker) could also lay claim. As to experience of Public Libraries, he could have no experience of what went on behind the scenes. He should vote for any of the other candidates rather than Mr. Loinaz.—Mr. Moore Keys seconded.—A member said experience did not count for anything in this matter, as a man of intelligence could learn the system of a library in half an hour. To him, if they were appointing an architect, doctor, or lawyer, previous experience would be absolutely necessary. He believed the best testimonial was reliability of character, and they knew Mr. Loinaz well, and that he would work well for them. If Dr. Gordon or anyone else could prove to him that previous experience as opposed to Mr. Loinaz's knowledge was worth 2½d., he would vote for one of the other candidates, but he thought it could not be done.—Mr. Davies said Mr. Loinaz was no friend of his, but he had come to the conclusion, after listening to the answers of the candidates, that he would rather appoint him without his technical experience than either of the other gentlemen with that experience. The broad issue was whether Mr. Loinaz was fit to be librarian of the district. He was intimately acquainted with the district, the population, and its needs. He believed Mr. Loinaz, in appearance, was the one who would command as much respect as any, and more than some of the other candidates. The cataloguing of books was a mechanical matter which could easily be carried out. Then Mr. Loinaz had a good general knowledge of books, and he had also taken a warm interest in the acquisition of the library, and it was upon his suggestion that application was made to Mr. Carnegie. The objection that Mr. Loinaz was a member of the Council was removed because he had resigned."

At the present moment it is interesting to note the number of librarians who have come from the Newcastle Public Libraries. The first was Mr. F. J. Burgoyne, of Lambeth, and almost contemporary with him, Mr. Thos. Everatt, of Streatham. Mr. Thos. Johnston, now at Hornsey, was at one time there, as also was Mr. C. W. F. Goss, of Bishopsgate. Mr. Hill, late chief-librarian of Sunderland, Mr. H. D. Roberts, of St. Saviour's, Mr. F. M. Roberts, of Stepney. Mr. Purves, of Workington, and Mr. Charlton Deas, the new chief-librarian of Sunderland, also came from Newcastle.

MR. A. Sweeney, librarian at the Oratory, South Kensington, who was making a cycling tour through North Wales, collided with a motor car near Towyn, was thrown on his head, and instantly killed.

THE following appeared in August: "Tain.—Librarian wanted for Public Library, Tain. Salary £14 per annum, with free house, coal and gas." It is not known how many qualified men made application for the 'post.'

DURING the excavations on the site of the Bideford Public Library, sixteen skeletons were unearthed.

THE foundation-stone of the new Public Library at **Rawmarsh**, towards which Mr. Carnegie made a grant of £3,000, was laid on Sept. 1st.

THE foundation-stone of the new **Walkley** Library was laid by Ald. W. H. Brittain, on Aug. 9th.

ON Aug. 24th, the **Ilkeston** Public Library provided in the main, by Dr. Carnegie, was opened by the Marquis of Granby. The Duke of Rutland was to have performed the ceremony, but was unable to do so.

Tain 'Carnegie' Public Library was formally opened on Thursday, Aug. 25th, by Sheriff Guthrie, K.C.

THE Duke of Devonshire, on Aug. 20th, opened the Carnegie Public Library at **Keighley**.

THE **Branksome** Public Library was opened on Aug. 31st, by Mrs. Charles Van Raalte.

THE new Public Library, presented to **Newton Abbott** (Devon), by Mr. J. Passmore Edwards, in memory of his mother, was formally opened by Viscount Ebrington, on Aug. 18th.

THE building contract has been issued for the erection of the proposed Public Library at **Beverley**.

THE foundation-stone of the Carnegie Public Library at **St. Annes** was laid by Councillor Stott, on Aug. 20th. The site was a gift of the Land and Building Co.



THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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"**B**AD Books," forms the subject of the opening paper in the latest number of the *Library*. "The bad book which is not a work of art will find but few open defenders; but the book of a depraved genius, though it is in fact the more mischievous, is less universally condemned." Such is the thesis, and Mr. R. F. Cholmeley discourses very pleasantly upon it. William E. A. Axon contributes an interesting description of "Some Twentieth-Century Italian Chap-books," issued from the printing office of Andriano Salani in Florence, a publisher of cheap general literature. Religion, narratives of crime and scandal, and song-books are the predominating elements. The history of the India Office Library is outlined by F. H. Brown. The library has been in existence for more than a century, having been formed by the Court of Directors of the East India Company in 1798. It now contains about 42,000 volumes in European languages, 14,000 volumes in Oriental languages, and 12,000 Oriental manuscripts, which latter

form a collection "second only to that of the British Museum." Alfred W. Pollard has collected the letters of Henry Bradshaw to officials of the British Museum, and the first instalment is printed in this number, W. W. Greg writes on "Henslowe, Collier, and the Latest German Criticism." There is also a note on some recent foreign novels and plays, by Elizabeth Lee, and the number concludes with a list of the "Sale Prices of Incunabula in 1903," compiled by R. A. Peddie.

The improvement noticed in the last number of the *Library Assistant* is more than maintained in the September one. W. C. Berwick Sayers contributes a "Few Thoughts on Staff-Relations." He treats of the influence for good or evil that the senior grades have upon the junior, and enlarges on the importance of the first few months spent by an assistant in a library. "From the first day he should be taught to realise that he is part of the library system as a whole; that work of the humblest kind in the shape of dusting, tagging, or carrying books, is really as dignified and as indispensable as cataloguing and classifying books. . . . He should be encouraged, too, to discover new methods towards improving his work. If it is only a new way of turning off the gas, it is worth remembering." Of course we agree with most of this; but we have carried piles of dusty books, and we have wielded the paste-brush, and we have also catalogued and classified, and have therefore, our own recollections of the relative dignity possible. Also, we should not advise the discovery of a "new way of turning off the gas"; it might be dangerous. However, Mr. Sayers has something to say, and says it, and we recommend the article to assistants, senior assistants especially. Thomas Coulson asks the question, "Are News-rooms a Desirable Adjunct to Free Libraries?" After weighing the evidence on both sides, he decides in the negative.

To the August number of the *Library Association Record*, Charles Madeley contributes an article on the "Classification of Office Papers," and gives a scheme of Library and Museum use. Something of the sort has been wanted for some time, and as Mr. Madeley's scheme is indexed, it will, no doubt, be found useful. Councillor Lucas, B.A., of Blackpool, writes on the "Delegation of Powers to Library Committees." He is not in favour of the full delegation of powers: "An irresponsible body is not as likely to do good work as one subject to the elective approval of the Town. Committees which start with contempt of the Council may end in contempt of their own constituency of readers." The result of the election of Officers and Council for 1904-05 is given.

The *Library Journal* for August contains an appreciative paper on "Henry Bradshaw: Librarian and Scholar," by Dr. Ewald Flügel. William T. Partridge deals with "Architectural Competitions for Library Buildings." He is, of course, in favour of open competition, and outlines the conduct of such a competition. Theresa Hitchler deals with the importance of courtesy and earnestness in library work in an article entitled "Inspiration: an Address to an Apprentice Class."

Other articles are "Pedagogics at Library Schools," and "Book Notes in Card Catalogues," which recommends that the notes published in bulletins should not be transferred to the card catalogue.

LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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CATALOGUES.

Dumfries and Maxwelltown Ewart Public Library. Catalogue of the Lending Library, 1904. Compiled by G. W. Shirley, Librarian. pp. 16 + 553. 8vo. 1904. Price 1s. 6d. (in paper at 1s.).

A dictionary catalogue very well compiled. Analytical entries have been more thoroughly carried out than usual, and instead of valuable space being wasted in setting out the contents of old magazines the following note is used :—

The principal contents of these magazines will be found detailed in other catalogues, which may be had on application.

Contents notes are added to important works, and, where necessitated by obscure titles, explanatory notes within brackets are supplied. The catalogue is well printed and bound, and is altogether a very creditable production.

Hawick Public Library. Catalogue. Compiled by Geo. S. McNairn, Librarian. pp. 12 + 530. 8vo. 1904. Price 6d.

A catalogue similar to the above, with the exceptions that annotations are more frequent, and analytical entries scarcer. It is modelled upon the catalogue of the Gorbals Branch of the Glasgow Corporation Libraries, and is excellently compiled. It is preceded by an illustrated account of the library.

Victoria Public Library of Western Australia. Catalogue of Books. Part 5: F-G. pp. 309-404. 4to. 1904.

This part comprises all the features already noticed. An idea of its fulness will be gained from the fact that the heading "Great Britain" occupies twenty-three long columns, "France" seven, and "Geology" three. With the catalogue comes an intimation that the title of the library has been altered to "Public Library of Western Australia."

REPORTS.

Brooklyn (twenty branches and travelling libraries), sixth report, 1903. Stock 371,420 volumes; borrowers 50,249; volumes issued 1,614,437; fiction percentage 68; expenditure \$206,700. The most important event of the year has been the consolidation of the Brooklyn Library (containing 182,777 volumes and pamphlets) with the Public Library. Two new branches have been opened. 3,225 books have been lost during the year, and although this forms but a small percentage of losses to use, it is partially explained by the illustrations in the report. One of these, of the interior of the Montague Branch, shows a gangway of about twelve feet wide leading into the stack room, absolutely without any means of checking the coming and going of borrowers. Fire has endangered the library twice this year, but all losses have been covered by insurance. The report, which runs to 118 pages, is an

interesting document. Great library activity there certainly is in Brooklyn, but then what could not be done on £43,000 a year?

St. Louis. *tenth report, 1903.* Stock 165,000 volumes; borrowers 58,961; volumes issued 902,768, last year 778,507; expenditure \$315,463. The most notable event of the year was the securing of a site for the central Carnegie building at a cost of \$217,415. A site for a branch library has also been donated. A catalogue of English fiction has been issued, and it is interesting to note that the printing of this, an octavo of 280 pages, "cost the library nothing for the printing, that being done for the advertising privilege. Ten new delivery stations have been opened, bringing the total up to 58. A report on the World's Fair Library Exhibit is included.

West Hartlepool. *ninth report, 1903-4.* Stock 12,776 volumes; borrowers 2,524; volumes issued 94,597; expenditure £1,200. The library is much hampered by the repayment of loans, and as very few new books are obtained, the number of borrowers is falling off.

BULLETINS.

Bootle. *Quarterly Journal.* Opens with the customary Notes on Books. "Notes on Stocktaking" is an analysis of volumes discarded, etc., and "Two Liverpool Worthies of the Fifties" is a three-page extract from "Through the Long Day." Museum Notes follow, and the Additions to the library seem to come in as an afterthought, on the last pages.

Brooklyn. *Co-operative Bulletin.* List of books on Gardening, and the usual additions.

Croydon. *Reader's Index.* We have had occasion before to hold up this publication as a model worthy of imitation, and the present number again forces our attention. It opens with a short article on "English Letters." Then follow the lists of additions to lending and reference libraries, fully annotated, and occupying, as they should, the most prominent place. After that, there is an eight-page annotated reading list on "Surrey," compiled in connection with the University Extension Lectures, and finally there is a "Topics of the Hour" reading list (a little belated, perhaps), on "Russian Seizure of British Ships." No extraneous matter is introduced, and it is, in all respects, the model of what a library magazine should be.

Darwen. *Library Journal.* Contains general notes, latest additions, an annotated list of "Some recent additions, in scientific, technical, and fine art literature," and the last page is ingeniously filled up with a blank space, headed, "Books I want to read."

Kingston-upon-Thames. *Our New Books.* This is another publication well worth imitation. It has many features in common with the *Reader's Index*, of Croydon, noted above. It contains a note on the annual report, and the annotated list of additions.

Nottingham. *Bulletin.* Contains annotated lists of additions, and some general notes.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

CLASSES.

THE third series of classes in "Library Economy," held at the London School of Economics, will commence on Wednesday, October 5th, 1904. Two classes will be held each Wednesday. During the Michaelmas term Mr. J. D. Brown will deliver eleven lectures on "Library History and Organization." During the first six weeks of the same term Mr. A. W. Pollard, M.A., will deliver a course of six lectures on "Historical Bibliography." At the close of Mr. Pollard's course Mr. Henry D. Roberts will commence a course of sixteen lectures on "Elementary Practical Bibliography," five lectures of which will be given during the Michaelmas term, and the remaining eleven in the Lent term, 1905. During this latter term Mr. Brown will deliver a course of eleven lectures on "Practical Library Administration." Full particulars may be obtained on application, either to the Director, London School of Economic and Political Science, Clare Market, W.C., or to the Hon. Secretary of the Education Committee, 44a, Southwark Bridge Road, S.E.

The Education Committee have arranged with Mr. James Duff Brown, Librarian of the Finsbury Public Libraries, Lecturer at the London School of Economics, to conduct correspondence classes in Section 5 (Library History and Organization) and Section 6 (Practical Library Administration) of the Examination Syllabus.

Eleven lessons will be given in each subject, and the classes will run concurrently with those to be held at the London School of Economics, that in section 5 commencing on October 5th, 1904, and that in section 6 commencing on January 18th, 1905.

The course will consist of a selection of technical literature for reading, questions thereon, and various exercises on the principal subjects of the courses. Each paper will be corrected and commented upon by the teacher. Students will be expected to provide themselves with the following text-books:—

Brown (J. D.) *Manual of Library Economy*. Scott, Greenwood & Co., 19, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C. Price 7s. 6d. net.

Brown (J. D.) *Annotated Syllabus for the systematic study of Librarianship*. Library Supply Co., 181, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. Price 1s. net.

Roebuck and Thorne. *Primer of Library Practice for Junior Assistants*. G. P. Putnam's Sons, London. Price 1s. 6d. net.

Reference should be possible to such books as:—

Clark. *The Care of Books*.

Edwards. *Memoirs of Libraries*.

Encyclopædia Britannica.

And as many of the works mentioned in the "Annotated Syllabus" as possible.

The course will, as a rule, be restricted to students living outside the London County Council area, but persons residing inside that area who may wish to join the classes may make application to the Education

Committee. These students, however, are reminded that, as stated above, Mr. Brown will conduct oral classes in the same subjects, on the same dates, at the London School of Economics.

The fee for each course will be 10s., payable in advance, to the Hon. Sec. of the Education Committee, 44a, Southwark Bridge Road, London, S.E., but students entering for both courses will only be required to pay a composition-fee of 17s. 6d.

NORTHERN COUNTIES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Association was held on 29th, August at the Durham College of Medicine, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

There were present Messrs. Butler Wood (President-Elect) Basil Anderton, Baker Hudson, B. R. Hill, W. J. Arrowsmith, G. W. Buyers, R. T. Richardson, A. H. Furnish, E. Wood, E. Bailey, A. Jude, J. W. C. Purves, W. Wilson, T. Hedley, W. Graham, A. Hair (Hon. Treasurer), H. E. Johnston (Hon. Secretary), and others. In the unavoidable absence of the President (Mr. T. W. Hand) Mr. Basil Anderton was voted to the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the last annual and quarterly meetings, which were adopted. The Scrutineers, Certificate as to the result of ballot for Council and officers for the ensuing year was submitted, viz.;—President: Mr. Butler Wood; Vice-Presidents: Messrs. B. Anderton, Ald. L. H. Armour, J.P., T. W. Hand, B. R. Hill, Baker Hudson, and E. V. Stocks, M.A.; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. Hair; Hon. Secretary: Mr. H. E. Johnston; Councillors: (Elected) Messrs. J. W. C. Purves, A. H. Furnish, W. F. Lawton, W. J. Arrowsmith, A. Tait, R. T. Richardson, G. W. Buyers, and R. McLeannan; (Not Elected) Messrs. Charlton Deas, N. Treliving, E. Bailey, E. Green, W. H. Gibson, J. M. Dowbiggin, E. Wood, J. Summersgill, and J. Walton. Seventy-one ballot papers were returned to the Scrutineers. Mr. Ernest Bailey was re-elected Auditor by a show of hands.

The Chairman called upon the President-Elect to take the chair. Mr. Wood took his seat amid applause, and thanked the members for his election. In moving a vote of thanks to the Retiring President, he referred to the exceedingly able and business-like manner in which Mr. Hand had conducted the affairs of the Association during the two years he had been president. Mr. B. R. Hill seconded the motion, and the Hon. Secretary supported, which was carried with acclamation.

The Annual Report of the Council was submitted, which stated that the membership was 100, and that the financial position of the Association was very satisfactory, especially having regard to the fact that during the past year it had been self-supporting. Meetings had been held at Bradford, York, and Durham, the average attendance being thirty-five members. The interim balance sheet showed that the subscriptions received amounted to £17 19s. 2d., as against £14 19s. 6d. expenditure, leaving a balance on hand of £2 19s. 8d. up to 31st, December next. The Report was adopted.

The following resolutions moved by the Hon. Treasurer were adopted, viz.,—

- 1.—That the balance sheet terminate on 31st December, instead of 31st July as at present, in order that the period covered will correspond with that covered by members' subscriptions, viz. ; 1st January to 31st December.
- 2.—That the minimum subscription be 2s. 6d. instead of 1s. as at present.

The Secretary announced that the Council had approved as new members Mr. N. Rudd, Public Library, South Shields; and two members of the Goole Urban District Council; also that they had cordially accepted an invitation from the Public Library Committee of Darlington to hold the next quarterly meeting at Darlington.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary for their services during the past year, after which the proceedings terminated.

THE PSEUDONYMS.

THE Annual Meeting of the Pseudonyms was held at the Colliers' Arms, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Tuesday, August 30th, 1904, at 1 a.m., when a large and distinguished company of members, and a few mere librarians, assembled under the presidency of Ossian to discuss the Annual Report and a mild repast of ham sandwiches and Scotch mist. The annual financial statement showed an adverse balance of 5s. 11½d., and it was pointed out by Jack Sprat that this would probably be increased by £30 2s. 6d. if a certain delegate was sent to St. Louis, and provided with a suitable muzzle. He, therefore, moved that those members present who represented the Tooley Street Society of Librarians should resign *en masse*, as a protest against the extravagance of fitting out a delegate with a half-crown muzzle. As no one seconded this motion, and no one offered to resign, the chairman announced that the resolution was lost, and it was thereupon "obliterated" in a roar of Homeric laughter. The only other question raised on the financial statement was a proposal by one of the members that a subscription should be levied all round in order to provide the DELEGATE with a waistcoat, so that the dignity of the Pseudonyms might be maintained. Jack Sprat offered to second this if a strait-waistcoat was intended; but on a vote being taken on the proposition, it was lost by 130 votes to 2. Jack Sprat then announced his intention of issuing a few more circulars in the name of the large majority of members whom he represented, as a protest against the purchase of a half-crown muzzle for a gentleman who voiced opinions which were unpopular among the Tooley Street Society of Librarians.

The chairman then called upon "No Name" to read a paper on "The Qualifications of a Delegate to represent a Library Association." Briefly summarized No Name's suggestions amounted to these:—

1. A delegate should be a person whose name is known to every respectable librarian in the United Kingdom, and his identity should not be veiled behind a screen of anonymity.

2. He should have an extensive training and experience at the Bar, and an acquaintance with the leading Inns and Outs of the country.
3. He should be the author of at least fifteen cwt. of valuable and impartial trade circulars and other aids to ignorant committees, and should represent a library which has no method or aspirations of later date than 1878.
4. He should have no knowledge of any system of library work which includes exact classification, intelligent cataloguing, access of readers to books, &c., but only a simple faith in the virtues of an indicator which supplies the deficiencies of ordinary librarians at so much per foot run.

He claimed that at least three-fourths of the librarians of the United Kingdom were opposed to any kind of progressive methods or theories, and what was really wanted as a DELEGATE was a dummy and not a man.

In throwing the subject open for discussion, Ossian observed that, while he sympathized to some extent with the aspirations of the Tooley Street Librarians in favour of the commonplace, he thought they had shown themselves singularly lacking in tact and diplomacy. In the first place, they had failed to realize the possibility of a DELEGATE to the United States being retained there, and *never returning*. Such an event might in the end, prove a cheap investment, by removing one who was not a devotee of the commonplace ideals championed by Jack Sprat and other birds of the same feather, and so making more easy the circulation of waste-paper-basket literature. In the second place, they should have chosen as their spokesman, an advocate who possessed the rudiments of commonsense, and one who could at least show gumption enough to be able to arrange for someone to second his resolutions, however absurd.

Oliver Twist observed that he was amazed, after all the preliminary fuss which had been made over the selection of a certain DELEGATE, who absolutely lacked every qualification enumerated by No Name, that the society did not perish owing to the threatened resignations. For days before this meeting, certain members had been prancing about boasting about the terrific things that were going to happen this evening, and yet, here they were, confronted by a wretched fizzle-out, compared to which the efforts of a damp squib were volcanic.

Hamlet spoke on the moral qualifications of a delegate, and pointed out that common honesty, and a sense of dignity towards the library profession were more valuable attributes than the qualifications noted in paragraph 3. He showed that circulars were dangerous for many reasons, but chiefly because they were so liable to recoil on the heads of their distributors. He mentioned as a commonly-known fact in geometry, that circular forms never progressed, but invariably returned to their starting point, and for that reason he marvelled at the blundering persistency of those persons who bombarded library committees and officials with clouds of circulars in opposition to advanced library methods, and in support of a certain piece of library furniture. Legitimate trading was one thing,

but he objected strongly to mud-throwing under the pretence of advertising. Certain librarians had been accused of deliberately doctoring their records in order to prove the success of a library method. Others had been charged with a kind of enthusiasm which was as rare as it was novel, when one considered how scarce millionaires were in the profession. This was nothing less than a statement to the effect that these rich enthusiasts paid for all losses from their libraries out of their own pockets, in order to secure a show of success for an iniquitous system of book issue! The implications of a kind of universal dishonesty among a large group of librarians which were contained in these trade circulars were disgraceful, and rather tended to show that their authors had views on the shady side of life by no means unsophisticated. He thought it was time that Library Committees, and librarians remote from the scene of these unprofessional proceedings, should be made acquainted with the mercenary nature of the whole propaganda. He stated that, if anyone took the trouble to enquire closely into its origin and meaning, he would be shocked and disgusted to find that its promoters had the impertinence to claim that *they* voiced the opinions of more than a few interested and prejudiced individuals of no particular professional merit. As a matter of fact, the number of librarians who took no interest in professional experiments, or who were opposed to the adoption of scientific methods of all kinds, was exceedingly small, and was decreasing every year.

[At this point a waiter appeared staggering under the weight of a gigantic tureen full of anonymous circulars, which were duly circulated and afterwards converted into useful pipelights.]

Robert Macaire hoped the discussion would tend to show those members who were Tooleystreeters, that it was time they retired from a false position, and realized at once that fair play and proper attention to their own business were much wiser than a course of silly, weak, and oftentimes unscrupulous interference with the affairs of their neighbours. He would ask them to remember that there was plenty of room for difference of opinion on every library method, without the intrusion of malignant and insulting misrepresentations, and he trusted, for one, that all circulars would be withdrawn, and that, in future, new committees and librarians would be permitted to work out their own salvation without outside interference of any kind.

The proceedings were concluded by a grand function of investment, in which Jack Sprat consented to buckle on the muzzle for THE DELEGATE, amidst the acclamations of the adjoining mob. The muzzle will allow the DELEGATE to consume his meals, but stifles him whenever he tries to mention "open ac—," "classi—," "annot—," or other objectionable words or phrases.

When last seen the Pseudonyms were meandering down Grainger Street arm-in-arm, singing in 21-part harmony that magnificent choral strophe—"Meet me at St. Louis, Louis."

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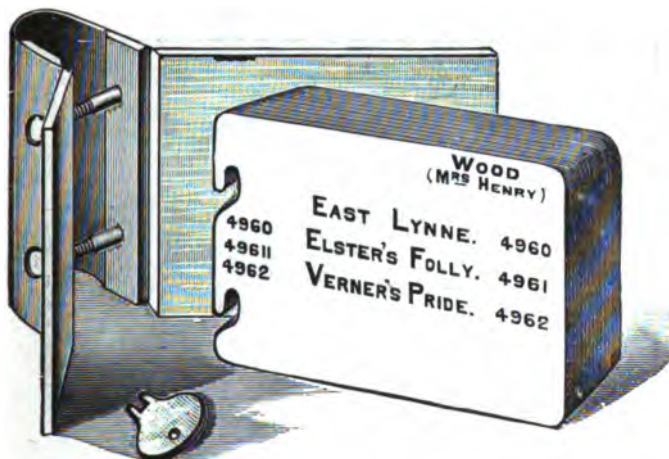
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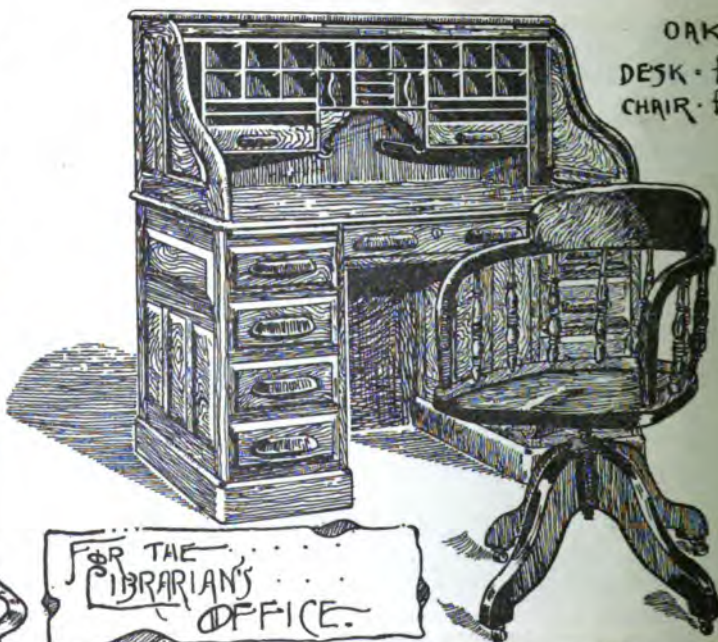
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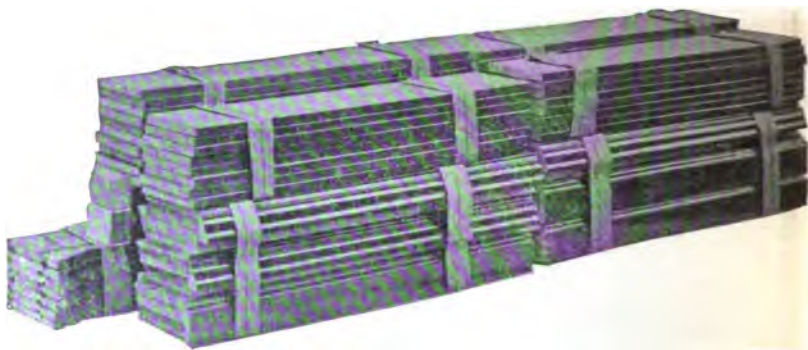
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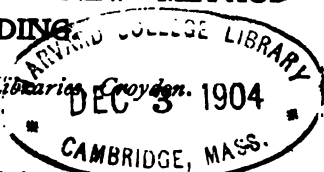
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GUIDING AN OPEN-ACCESS LENDING LIBRARY: WITH A SUGGESTION FOR A NEW METHOD OF SHELF GUIDING

By JAMES D. STEWART, *Public Librarian, Croydon.*



NOW that it is generally acknowledged that open-access has come to stay, the attention of Public Librarians is becoming directed more to matters of detail in management, and less to the broader questions of policy. So far, however, the larger details, such as planning and interior arrangement, classification, and methods of issue—to name a few—have received most consideration, and there are many points of great importance to the practical utility of the library which yet remain to be dealt with systematically. It is on one of these points, the provision of Guides, that I propose to touch.

In an open library, it is of the utmost consequence that the collection should be made readily accessible to every borrower. This means that some definite and systematic method of arrangement must be employed, which will be easily understood by any person of ordinary intelligence on his first visit to the library.

A systematic scheme of classification is, of course, the first essential. Unless the collection is classified, it is useless to try to guide it. The first step, therefore, is to select a scheme of classification, and in doing this, two very important points have to be noted. The first of these is the character of the notation, which *must* be simple and follow a perfectly obvious progression, and the other is that the scheme must be fully indexed. As the Dewey decimal system answers both these requirements, I will assume, for the purpose of illustration, that it is the scheme selected, although the guides would be similar with another scheme.

Having selected a suitable classification, it is here that some librarians stop. But a scheme of classification in itself is not enough; it must be supplemented by various marks and guides acting as finger-posts to its particular parts, so as to make the resources of the library on any given subject available without a prolonged search.

An alphabetical subject-index to the classification is the first guide to be supplied, and this is where the desirability of a fully indexed scheme is apparent. In the case of the classification selected, an index is published with the scheme, and the problem is to make this available for public use. One way is to take two copies of the index and mount them on linen or strong paper, and bind up in book form. This is the simplest way, but it unfortunately has several disadvantages. It is

expensive, as two copies are required to make one index, and the paper on which it is printed is not of the best quality and is easily worn, thus necessitating frequent renewal. It also contains many subjects that will not be represented in the library. A better way is to have the index typed up in sheaf form. If a strong paper of good quality is used, it will last a long time. By omitting all subjects unrepresented, this can be made to form a key to the actual contents of the library. New subjects as they come up can be inserted in their places without any difficulty. If card catalogues are in use, this guide can be made on cards, but the sheaf method has the advantage of preserving the book form familiar to the public.

Having obtained a subject index, it will be advisable, if the library is a large one, to supply a guide plan of the book stacks showing the position of the main classes. In some libraries where the natural order of the main classes has been altered to suit special conditions and requirements, this guide is indeed indispensable. It should be placed in a prominent position near the entrance. By omitting all unnecessary detail, and distinguishing each block of shelves containing a class by means of colour, the plan can be made a very clear and useful guide.

The next guides necessary are large framed cards (about 12" x 20"), setting forth the chief divisions of each main class, as :—

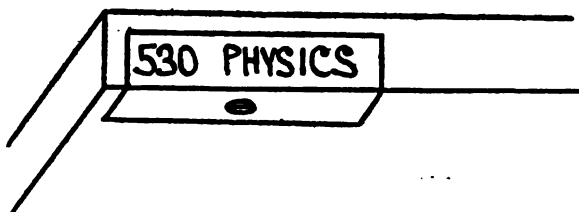
500 NATURAL SCIENCE.

500 General Works.	550 Geology.
510 Mathematics.	560 Palæontology.
520 Astronomy.	570 Biology.
530 Physics.	580 Botany.
540 Chemistry.	590 Zoology.

They should be placed at the tops of the cases, at an angle sufficient to enable them to be read easily, and should occupy a position about the centre of the class. These guides simply placard the main classes, and refer, not to the exact shelf on which a division of the class is to be found, but only to its relative position. This being so, it is as well to have extra cards, of a smaller size, fixed immediately above large divisions, such as "Poetry," "Essays," "English History," &c., bearing the name of the division in large letters.

We now come to the vexed question of guiding individual shelves. No really satisfactory method of doing this has yet been brought forward. The most popular method is to have small strips of cardboard

with the names of the sub-divisions printed on them, and to fix them to the front edge of the shelf by means of slips of transparent xylonite bent at right angles, thus :—



This is a very effective and simple method, and allows of fairly easy alteration. There are various forms of label-holders in metal which fit on to the front of the shelf and hold a similar card, but the xylonite form is preferable. This method of shelf guiding, however, has many disadvantages. The label-holders, especially the xylonite ones, are apt to get damaged, and let in the dust, to the detriment of the card. The labels are small, and therefore not very prominent, and do not allow of any additional information being given. Finally, there is the expense, which is considerable.

Some librarians, therefore, prefer to discard these methods of shelf labelling, and to adopt some other. The ideal other method yet remains to be discovered, but the tendency at present seems to be to treat each tier of shelves as a unit, and to guide it by means of a chart. An elevation of the tier, showing the contents of each shelf, forms the guide chart. It is framed and attached to the upright between each tier, so that it projects at right angles to the shelves. The frame is double, and duplicate charts are placed at each side of the tier. Care must be taken to fix it at a height sufficient to be out of the way, and yet not too high to be read.

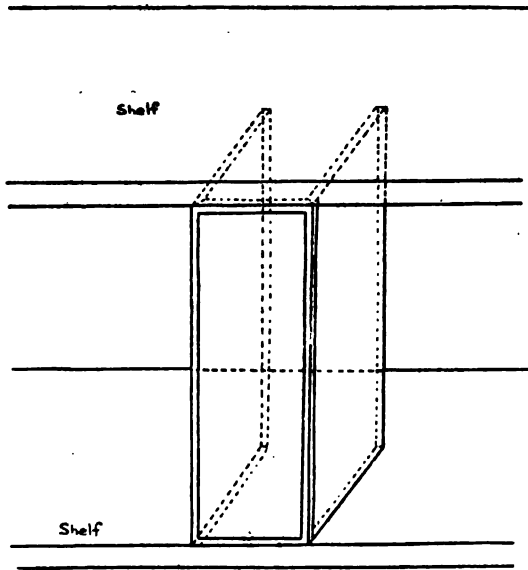
The advantages of this chart are many. Not the least important is that it gives a complete view of the contents of the tier, and yet allows of more adjustability of the book-positions within the tier. When fixed in the position described, it would, of course, be conspicuous to anyone approaching the shelves at an angle, but would probably be overlooked by a person standing directly in front of the tier.

Something is therefore wanted to combine the advantages of the label on the front of the shelf, and the chart at the side. The ideal plan, it would seem, would be to have a chart fixed in the middle of the tier about half-way up.

A good form of chart would be as follows :—

CHART OF SUBJECTS IN THIS TIER	
PHYSICS	535 LIGHT
PHYSICS	536 HEAT
PHYSICS	537 ELECTRICITY FOR ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING SEE 621-8
PHYSICS	537 ELECTRICITY 538 MAGNETISM
PHYSICS	539 MOLECULAR PHYSICS
	540 CHEMISTRY 541 THEORETICAL
CHEMISTRY	542 PRACTICAL EX- PERIMENTAL

It measures approximately 5" by 10", but the latter size would vary according to the standard shelf height in use at different libraries. The skeleton chart would be printed, and the details filled in by means of a rubber sign-writer. It would occupy a position in the centre of the fourth or fifth shelf of the tier, as shown in the following rough diagram :—



The position occupied is absolutely the best possible, and a guide placed there could not possibly be overlooked.

The card is, of course, framed, and the frame would require side pieces reaching about half-way back on the shelf so as to prevent books slipping behind. The back of the frame would have to be moveable so as to allow of alterations in the card. The whole thing could be fastened to the shelf by a method similar to the Yale book-rest, but as no shifting of the guide frame would be done, a better and cheaper way would be to screw it to the shelf. By means of quotations from a number of frame-makers, I estimate that the frames necessary for the guiding of a library of 20,000 volumes would cost £3, and would, therefore, not cost so much as the double frame on the upright, and would, probably, not be much, if any, more than that of the printed cards and xylonite shelf-labels. Another way would be to have the frame separate from the back portion, and to hang it on, thus making it possible to change the guides to different tiers, without taking out the cards. If this plan were adopted it would mean a loss of shelving space averaging four books to the tier. As, however, no Public Lending Library has every shelf filled to its fullest capacity, this loss would never be felt, and the theoretical loss of this shelf space is more than counterbalanced by the value of a guide in such a position.

If thought desirable, another guide on similar lines to this chart could be provided. This is a chart of the whole side of a book-stack,

showing each shelf and its contents. This should be fixed to the end of the stack. It will be seen that this is merely an adaption of the method in vogue in some of the old monastic and college libraries, where a list of the books contained in each press was hung at the end.

This is practically the end of the subject of guides—which, by the way, are not nearly so formidable as they seem—and any place carrying out the scheme outlined here will be at least better off than some of the trackless deserts of libraries that exist. In some cases, special guides may be required by local conditions, but these need not be dealt with.

So far as possible, I have not recommended any guide that has not stood the test of actual working, and the few suggestions made are in process of being tested in actual practice; and I have tried to avoid flights of imagination such as that of the genius who suggested that a number of coloured lines be drawn on the floor radiating from the entrance to various parts of the library, and that notices like the following should be put up: "Follow the pink line for Corelli!" All I have attempted is simply a brief outline of some of the existing methods.

The subject is one that deeply affects the welfare of the institution, and as such is worthy of the earnest consideration of every librarian.



LIBRARY BULLETINS.

By J. W. SINGLETON, *Public Library, Accrington.*

C O O

IN reviewing the Bootle Library Report for 1900-1 (which contained a brief reference to the "*Quarterly Journal*," the "*Library World*" (vol 1. p. 15) states that "It is difficult to obtain reliable information as to how much librarians may expect to lose if they start a magazine, or how much they may expect to gain." In endeavouring to supply this information so far as our own library is concerned, I venture to say, that, whilst it is possible to obtain "reliable information" concerning the pecuniary loss or gain, it is impossible to estimate the *educational value* of a well-conducted library journal. But so long as libraries are half-starved upon the proceeds of a penny rate the question of £ s. d. will be a primary one.

First of all then let us consider whether or not a journal is likely to pay financially. It will not, I am afraid, without the aid of advertisements. Some librarians have taken the risk of publication upon their own shoulders but I am not prepared to recommend this way out of the difficulty. The journal is, or should be, published for the benefit of the library and its readers, and the Library Committee should bear the loss or receive the profits as the case may be. Occasionally a printer will be found who will print the journal for the privilege of inserting "a select number of advertisements." Though this method is better than none, very serious drawbacks are usually attendant with it. The editor is at the mercy of the printer; his ideas *and pages* are

curtailed, and the printer has the not unnatural yearning to get the thing up as cheaply as possible. If advertisements are required, I would suggest that they be placed on the pages nearest the cover, and not amongst the reading matter.

With regard to the cost of our own journal, it was published the first year at a loss of £3, although very few copies were left. This year we have gained by experience and do not anticipate any loss. It will cost for twelve months, for 800 copies per quarter, £19—blocks extra. The receipts from advertisements, which stand for the year, will be £10 10s., leaving a profit on all sales beyond 500 copies.

The question whether the journal will sell or not depends so largely upon its substance and "get-up," that I will deal at once with what, in my opinion, it should contain; merely remarking in passing that its sale may be very greatly enhanced by allowing the assistants a small commission on the numbers they dispose of.

Full lists of additions form, and rightly too, the chief portion of most library journals, but too few of the entries are annotated. In fact, many librarians make no pretence at annotating the entries at all. If the journal is issued as a "guide to readers," as most of them profess to be, it is not sufficient to give the bare titles and numbers. Most book titles will bear elucidation, many absolutely require it, and to my mind the first object in publishing a journal should be to give the readers as much information as possible about the newly acquired books. I am not an advocate of critical annotations; brief descriptive notes serve the best purpose. A judicious selection from a review, or a glance at the contents of a book, will generally afford sufficient information for a brief description of its scope, and when reading a review the practice of underlining in pencil any portion which may be of service in this respect when the book is obtained saves a considerable amount of time. Whilst dealing with the question of annotations may I point out the absurdity of such general statements as "a powerful and impressive romance," "a book full of thrilling excitement," "an interesting story of two young ladies," "a series of very strange stories," and the like. They convey no definite meaning, nor do they enlighten the borrower as to the contents of the book.

As a means of communication the library journal fills a useful place. Most librarians must have felt the need of some means of notifying changes in administration, announcing lectures, and generally keeping borrowers in touch with the library. It will also be found expedient to publish a list of donors and donations. My experience is that by so doing you swell the list.

A report of a meeting of the Pseudonyms in *The Library World* (vol. 1, p. 239) contains the following sentence:—"Much fun was poked at the efforts of a certain grave and dignified library journal to emulate the achievements of *Tit-Bits* and *Pearson's Weekly* in the snippet line, and doubt was expressed as to the wisdom of including such stuff to the possible exclusion of valuable contributions and papers." Without entering into competition with the papers named, many incidents of an amusing character occur almost daily at a Public

Library which may suitably be recorded. If by devoting a page or half-page to such matter a few more subscribers can be secured and a greater interest taken in the library, I should prefer to publish it rather than add another page of dry matter, which might have the opposite effect. One example may serve to illustrate this point. I know of one library where sets of the journal have been given away to purchasers of the catalogue; and in looking over one or two numbers there is little wonder that so few readers purchased it, and that it was found necessary to adopt this given-away-with-a-half-pound-of-tea principle. Four or five pages containing the dry names of men who have adorned the county may interest an antiquary, but are of no interest or practical use to the average borrower. If the journal is to be a success it must be made interesting to the general body of readers, and the editor must not use it as a medium for airing his pet themes.

An illustration always assists the sale. The loan of a block from the publishers of a local book can often be obtained, and most newspaper offices have a stock which one can draw upon in case of emergency. Even if it is necessary to have a block made the cost may be covered by inserting an additional loose advertisement.

Contributions from outsiders may be "received with thanks," and used sparingly, the editor always exercising his right of revision when necessary.

How often to publish will depend upon the size of the library and number of readers. Generally speaking, once a quarter will be found often enough for the smaller libraries. I was asked not long ago by a librarian if I was not very often fast what to put in the journal to "fill up." This was hardly a flattering question, but as he had only just seen a copy I may presume that he did not ask it in a sinister manner. I believe it is the opinion of librarians who have had experience in this matter that the difficulty is not what to obtain to "fill up," but what to reject for want of space—such, at any rate, has been my experience so far.

I am not qualified to speak upon the advisability or otherwise of including museum and technical school notes in the library journal, but I see no objection to the course, provided the library matter is allowed its fair share of space.

In conclusion, I am conscious that it is not any new subject I have brought forward. The question has been before librarians for some time, but does not seem to have met with so hearty a reception as it seems to deserve. I shall be more than satisfied if what I have said will induce some librarians seriously to consider the advisability of publishing a library journal.



THE BURDEN OF NEWSROOMS.

By LOCKWOOD HUNTLEY.

o o o

THE question of the utility of public newsrooms in connection with our Public Library system has of late years come prominently to the front. After fifty years of Public Library history such a question seems to indicate that, in some measure at any rate, the newsroom has failed to appeal to municipalities contemplating the inauguration of a library supported by town rates. In point of fact, the newsroom, as first established, has, perhaps, wandered into by-paths and cross-lanes from the direction it was intended to lead.

Let us examine briefly the reasons that have brought this about, and that have brought the public newsroom into so much public odium. In the first place, this room suffers from the identical causes that all public resorts more or less experience. Like the railway-station or the law courts, people come to the newsroom from sheer weariness of the flesh—with little or no special object in view, and with certainly no great desire to read or learn. It is the rendezvous of all sorts and conditions of men—from the smart City business man to the unblushing tramp who has simply come in for a rest. The submerged rub shoulders with the affluent; the workhouse corduroy with the finest broadcloth; the out-of-work with his late master. It is the most democratic of all institutions: the tramp may for once enjoy equal privileges with the best there, and the best there cannot demand more than the tramp. The tramp, however, is more exacting. His object seems to be to make the public newsroom a sort of cheap hotel, the only condition (which he is at all times ready to observe) being that he should read while he is there. Surreptitiously he will take off his boots to rest his feet, and is to be seen in this easy position occupying a cushioned chair, and, with an expression of funereal gloom, looking at *Punch*. He is not even grateful, for if you hint at the propriety of his resuming his boots (by courtesy) he will probably indulge in a fit, and you wonder how you could be so brutal. He is waiting till he can get his ticket for the workhouse, and on the near approach of the time he throws *Punch* down with lofty contempt and expectorates violently. It is his opinion of you and the room.

There are, however, tramps and tramps, though one and all help to make the newsroom unpopular. Who does not know the educated tramp—the professional man who has lost caste. His lost position is in evidence in his polished bearing and speech, and his present position in his poverty-stricken aspect. A black frock-coat, fearfully and wonderfully bright, buttoned up tight across a chest innocent of either vest or shirt, trousers sunk into dilapidated shoes, and—horror of horrors—a scarf, picked up Heaven knows where, around his neck where once stood, high and white, the immaculate collar. The newsroom is his only link between his present and his lost position. He peruses the better-class magazines, and for a time his features lose their tense

expression, and relax into a softened tone which alters the man's whole bearing. He mixes not with his fellows, but sits apart, and if addressed raises his hat with exaggerated politeness. He is one of our tragedies, but an unqualified undesirable. Poor fellow!—unwillingly and unconsciously he lowers the status of the room.

If there is one man, however, who tries the nerves of the overseer of a newsroom more than any other, it is the man with a small competence and time hanging heavily on his hands. He is here all day and every day, and is intensely literary. He daintily picks his way from this to that—correcting a fault here and an author there—putting straight an editor and smiling knowingly at a publisher. He will give you the latest information respecting cataloguing methods—unsolicited—and is a competent authority upon obscure library bye-laws. He is also a Ratepayer, and you never forget it. You miss his face on Good Friday and Christmas-day only, but he feels very much hurt that you are not open on those days too. In his own way he too adds his share to make the place unpopular. He has plenty of time, and he takes it out at the newspapers, monopolizing each in turn at an unconscionable length.

The time, however, to see a public newsroom at its best, or at its worst, is on a dark, wet night, when the sleet is driving with hurricane force against the window panes, and the well-clad are hurrying home, and the homeless shivering in entries and passages. All the chairs fill fast, for a large part, it is to be feared, with those whose only literature hitherto has been the "Mid-day Tissue." These must find an excuse for being there, and it is a somewhat ludicrous sight to watch a man who can barely pick his way through a race-card struggling with an article in the *Contemporary* on "Peculiarities in the Greek Root." It is the only book at liberty, and he takes it with the chair. It's either that or a time-table. Every newspaper stand has its occupant of dripping readers, and every scrap of readable matter seems, at all events, to be in use. Those who come for legitimate purposes find their places occupied, and go away dissatisfied, and so the wet nights help too to bring about discontent and grumbling.

In contrast to all this, or, perhaps, parallel with it, we have the eternal visits of the bookmaker—bedizened, ringed, and horsey. All newsrooms suffer from this unmitigated nuisance—he is rampant, loud, and conspicuous. With amazing effrontery he glues down the racing page, and with elbows across the paper calmly pencils down the odds. If he has left his pocket-book behind he will slyly tear off the margin of the paper itself for his memoranda. There are two men fuming behind him, to whom he is absolutely indifferent. One is the anxious out-of-work who wants the advertisements, the other is the political enthusiast who wants the leading article. Each are absolutely helpless, and have to wait patiently until his "book" is complete. The law allows it and the court awards it. Is it not an incongruity, grotesque and humiliating, that one is helpless in the face of this crying evil? To black out the racing news seems the action of a Goth; to set a time-limit is impracticable; to drop newspapers altogether is unthinkable. We are

not, however, straining to find means to redress any of these evils in the present paper, but relating lightly some of the undesirable associations connected with our newspaper rooms.

It is understood, of course, that in no public room could a loafer hope with any success to find shelter with no other object in view than loafing. He must outwardly, in any case, conform to the regulations of the place, and in a reading-room he must read, or do something so very like it that sharp eyes cannot tell the difference. What do loafers read? The loafer with whom we are all more or less acquainted—the common or garden genus—dearly loves his newspaper; assize trials, a society divorce, a sanguinary murder, or very red war. He does not like to stand too much, and newspapers tire him, and so he is to be found shortly sunk into the best chair turning over the magazines and literary trifles on the tables. He wants something light and airy—little scraps and tit-bits—he doesn't care to be "sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought," but to be amused. The illustrateds are his great prize and the lighter monthlies. The surest way of getting rid of him is to have nothing near him except the devotional papers such as *Soul's Welfare*, *Heavenward*, or *Missionary News*. These soon test his devotion, and the sound of a band outside puts the finishing touch on, and he clears till the evening papers arrive.

These are a few, and only a few, of the undesirables that have brought the question of the utility of public newsrooms into prominence. Their admission into these rooms and the helplessness of the authorities in the matter have cast over the whole subject an element of doubt as to whether newspaper rooms serve any useful purpose. In our opinion, it is a question that is becoming rapidly a very serious one, and one that municipalities will some day find presenting itself in such a shape that a final decision for or against will be absolutely demanded.



ESSAYS ON INDEXING.—XIII.

By ARCHIBALD L. CLARKE, *Librarian, Royal Medical and
Chirurgical Society, London.*

Continued from Vol. VII. p. 60.

o o o

- (30) PEARSON (Karl). On the inheritance of the mental characters in man. *Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1901, lxix., 150-153.
 Inheritance of mental character in man. Pearson, K. *Proc. Roy. Soc.* [etc.].
 Mental character in man, inheritance of. Pearson, K. *Proc. Roy. Soc.* [etc.].
 Man—inheritance of mental character. *Proc. Roy. Soc.* [etc.].

This is a title that exactly describes the nature of the communication, and the entries supplied are fully sufficient for any alphabetical index.

- (31) WILSON (Ernest). The distribution of magnetism as affected by induced currents in an iron cylinder when rotated in a magnetic field. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1902, lxix, 435-449.
 Electric currents, induced; effect of, in iron cylinder in rotating magnetic field. Wilson, Ernest. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1902, lxix, 435-449.
 Magnetic field, rotating: distribution of magnetism in iron cylinder in; comparison with alternating magnetic field. Wilson, Ernest. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.].

In the last entry, the two facts stated about "Magnetic field, rotating," must not be grouped in one reference, but arranged separately:

Magnetic field, rotating:
 comparison with alternating magnetic field.
 Wilson, E. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.].
 Distribution of magnetism in iron in.
 Wilson, E. Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.].

And if the entries are being arranged for the large or cumulative index that we suppose, there must be an entry under Magnetic field, alternating as follows:

Magnetic field, alternating
 comparison with rotating magnetic field.
 Wilson (E.) [etc.].

To complete the list of entries, two others are needed:

Magnetism: distribution as affected by induced currents in an iron cylinder when rotated in magnetic field. Wilson, (E.). Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.]

Iron cylinder: distribution of magnetism as affected by induced currents in iron cylinder when rotated in magnetic field. Wilson (E.). Proc. Roy. Soc. [etc.].

- (32) WARD (H. Marshall). On pure cultures of a uredine, *Puccinia dispersa* (Eriks). Proc. Roy. Soc., 1902, lxix, 451-466.

Bromus, pure cultures of uredine on. Ward, H. Marshall. Proc. Roy. Soc., 1902, lxix, 451-466.

Puccinia dispersa (Eriks), pure cultures of. Ward, H. Marshall. Proc. Roy. Soc.

As the specific name of the uredine "*Puccinia dispersa*" is given as a heading, there is no need for full entry under "Uredineæ," but there is need for the cross-reference "Uredineæ. See *Puccinia*." Supposing there to be accumulation of references under Uredineæ, it will be similarly necessary to have a cross-reference from Uredineæ to "Rusts." The enquirer who sees the entry under "*Puccinia dispersa*" will want to know on what plant its cultures were made: hence the value of the heading "*Bromus*, pure cultures of uredine on." The tale of entries will be usefully completed by the cross-reference: "Gramineæ: see *Bromus*."

The following entries are taken from index slips supplied for the Proceedings and also for the transactions of the Royal Dublin Society. Exactly the same system of explanation, and supplement where necessary will be adopted.

- (1) CARPENTER (G. H.). Pantopoda from the Arctic Seas (dredged by Mr. W. S. Bruce, 1897-98). Proc. Roy. Dublin Society, 1900, n.s., ix., 279-282.

Pantopoda from the Arctic Seas. Carpenter, G. H. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc., 1900, n.s., ix., 279-282.

As the descriptions of the particular Pantopoda were due to Mr. Bruce's making them available for this purpose by dredging them, his name should be entered with a cross-reference.

BRUCE (W. S.): See Carpenter (G. H.) Pantopoda from the Arctic Seas, dredged by Mr. W. S. Bruce. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc. [etc.].

The geographical entry, "Arctic seas, Pantopodd from," is also necessary.

- (2) JOLY (J.). Theory of the order of formation of silicates in igneous rocks. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc., 1900, n.s., ix., 298-303.

Silicates in igneous rocks: theory of order of formation. Joly, J. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc. [etc.].

Additional entry needed:

Rocks (Igneous): silicates in: theory of order of formation. Joly, J. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc. [etc.].

Also the cross-reference: Igneous rocks: see *Rocks* (igneous).

- (3) REYNOLDS (J. Emerson). Recent analyses of the Dublin gas supply and observations thereon. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc., 1900, n.s., ix., 304-313.

Dublin: gas supply: recent analyses. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc. [etc.].

Gas (supply of, Dublin), recent analyses. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc. [etc.].

The entries supplied in the index slip are sufficient for our purpose.

- (4) HARTLEY (W. N.). On the occurrence of cyanogen compounds in coal gas, and of the spectrums of cyanogen in that of the oxy-coal gas flame. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc., 1900, n.s., ix., 289-297.

Cyanogen compounds in coal gas. Hartley, W. N. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc., 1900, n.s., ix., 289-297.

Spectrum of cyanogen in that of oxy-coal gas flame. Hartley, W. N. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc.

Coal-gas: cyanogen compounds in. Hartley, W. N. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc., 1900, n.s., ix., 289-297.

The foregoing entries are also sufficient.

(To be continued.)

LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

o o o

[Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.]

THE committee of the Keighley Carnegie Public Library have selected Mr. R. S. **Crossley** as chief librarian. Mr. Crossley was the assistant librarian at the Mechanics' Institute.

ONE of the oldest institutions in **Acorrington**, the Mechanics' Institute, is handing over a valuable plot of ground, a large house, and 6,000 volumes to the Corporation for the purposes of the new library, for which Mr. Carnegie is giving £6,000.

MR. ARTHUR **Barker**, Senior Assistant in the library and office of the Leeds Institute, has been appointed senior clerk in the Technical and Evening School section of the West Riding County Council, Education Department, Wakefield. On his retirement Mr. Barker was the recipient of a gold albert, with inscribed medallion attached, from the members of the staff, the presentation being made by the secretary, Mr. Arthur Tait.

THE **Heckmondwike** District Council have approved the plans prepared by Mr. Hy. Stead, a local architect, of a public library building, for the erection of which Mr. Carnegie promised £2,500 some time ago. Mr. T. F. Firth, J.P., has presented a suitable site near the centre of the town.

A NEW LIBRARY FOR LOWER SYDENHAM.—The Mayor of Lewisham, Councillor G. S. Warmington, J.P., opened the new branch library at **Lower Sydenham**. The library is situated in Sydenham Road, and towards its cost and that of a similar building in Brockley, Mr. Carnegie has given £9,000. There are already upwards of 7,500 volumes on the shelves of the Lower Sydenham library. At the opening ceremony there were present Major Coates, M.P., Mr. F. W. Warmington, L.C.C., Mr. J. W. Cleland, L.C.C., and representatives of the various local authorities. The building having been declared open, a vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Carnegie for his kind gift, on the proposition of Major Coates.

THE foundation-stone of the **Penarth** Public Library was laid on Sept. 10th.

ON Wednesday, Oct. 12, the ancient borough of **Hartlepool** was the scene of an event of considerable local interest, the occasion being the formal opening by the Mayor, Councillor J. R. Butterwick, of the new Public Library, for the erection of which Mr. Andrew Carnegie, LL.D., gave the handsome sum of £5,000.

MR. CARNEGIE has decided to give an additional £1,000 to complete the Library of **Cork**.

THE splendid Public Library erected in York Road by the **Leeds** Corporation Library Committee, at a cost of over £20,000, was formally opened on October 11th, by the Lady Mayoress.

A NEW Branch Library for the District of St. Sepulchre, **Finsbury**, was opened by the Mayor on October 31st.

MR. CARNEGIE has promised £40,000 to the Borough of **Islington** to provide one central library and four branches, on condition that the full amount of a penny rate is levied at once. He hopes the cost of sites will not be made a charge in the library rate. As previously announced, Islington had already adopted the Acts.

MR. OSWALD C. **Hudson**, son of Mr. Baker Hudson, Chief Librarian at Middlesbrough, has been appointed Chief Librarian of the Goole Public Library.

Carnegie gifts:—Deptford, £18,000; Newport (Mon), £2,000; Shirebrook, £1,600; Horsham, £3,000; Pleasley, £400; North Fulham, £4,790; Balbriggan, £2,000; Eccles, £7,500.

THE Carnegie Public Library at **Buckley** (Flints.) was opened early in September.

THE **Birchfield** Branch of the Handsworth Public Libraries, was opened on October 3rd.

MR. C. **Plowman**, for the past twenty years librarian of St. Albans Public Library, has tendered his resignation, as the Committee consider themselves in a position to appoint a "qualified" librarian.

Hyde Public Library have instituted "Open Access" in their Reference Library. Hitherto, application for books has been made through a window of the railway booking-office description.

MR. A. R. CORNS, F.R.Hist.S., the City Librarian of Lincoln, and formerly Sub-Librarian of the Wigan Public Library, has been unanimously elected president of the North Midland Library Association.

LIVERPOOL LIBRARY OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.—The first re-union of this society was held on Monday, Oct. 17th, at the Bear's Paw, under the chairmanship of Mr. T. Formby, late deputy librarian of the William Brown Street Library. There were present:—Mr. P. Cowell, Chief Librarian and President, Messrs. G. G. Walmsley, E. Howarth, F.Z.S., F.R.A.S. (director of the Sheffield Museum and Art Gallery), and a representative gathering of Old Library Boys covering a period of over forty years of the library's existence. The entertainment was provided by the Municipal Pierrots, under the direction of Mr. F. G. Gillies as conductor. The proceedings were of a pleasant and enthusiastic character. Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Old Library Boys at a distance (Messrs. J. H. Quinn, Chelsea; J. Frowde, Bermondsey; A. Cawthorne, Stepney; and S. C. Thompson, Swansea).

— librarians of the respective places named). Speeches were made by Mr. Corbett, Mr. C. Howarth, Sheffield, one of the oldest of Old Boys, and for some years at the Liverpool Museum ; the chairman of the Old Library Boys' Committee, Mr. W. Howarth ; and Mr. W. Quinn, treasurer. The arrangements were largely in the hands of Mr. W. R. Wild and Mr. J. C. Howarth, joint secretaries. A pleasant feature was the presence of many ladies—the wives, sisters, daughters, &c., of members. The organization is believed to be the only one of the kind in existence connected with a Public Library in the United Kingdom, and comprises over sixty members.

MR. T. G. **Willis**, Sub-librarian at the Stoke-on-Trent Public Libraries, has been appointed sub-librarian at Blackpool Public Library.

MISS F. **POOLES** has been appointed Librarian of **Boston** Public Library.

Chester-le-Street is offered £3,000 towards the building of a Public Library, by Dr. Carnegie.

Prescot is offered £2,000 for a Public Library by Dr. Carnegie.

Cleator Moor is offered £2,500 for the erection of a Public Library by Dr. Carnegie. The offer has been accepted.

Colne (Lancs.) has received an offer of £5,000 for the building of a Public Library. As the conditions can easily be met by the Corporation, the offer will no doubt be accepted.

AN offer of £2,500 towards the purchase of the **Haslington Mechanics' Institute** for Public Library purposes, has been made by Dr. Carnegie, provided the town raises £483 for the purchase of the land forming the site.

THE offer of £2,500 for the erection of a Public Library made by Dr. Carnegie to **Castleton** has been accepted.

THE offer to **Dumbarton** of £6,000, made by Dr. Carnegie, has been accepted.

Nelson (Yorks.) has accepted the £7,000, offered for a Public Library, by Dr. Carnegie.

Porthcawl (S. Wales) has an offer of a Public Library, from Dr. Carnegie. If a site can be procured, the offer will be accepted.

Kilkenny (Ireland) is offered £2,750 for a Public Library. The offer has been accepted, and a vote of thanks passed to Dr. Carnegie.

DR. CARNEGIE has granted £2,000 towards the erection of a Public Library at **Wick**.

Cradley is promised £2,500 for a Public Library by Dr. Carnegie.

ON Thursday, September 8th, the Kingston District Library, being the first of the new Carnegie Branches of the **Glasgow** Public Libraries, was opened by the Lord Provost. It consists of a Lending Department (with special indicator for Fiction only); General Reading Room; Ladies' Room; Rooms for Boys and Girls; and the usual staff and other accommodation.

MR. T. W. POWELL, under-assistant at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, has been appointed senior assistant at the Public Library, **Kingston-upon-Thames**.

THE American Library Association have appointed a Committee on **Book Prices**, consisting of Messrs. A. E. Bostwick (New York), J. C. Dana (Newark), and B. C. Steiner (Baltimore), and under their direction various useful card "Bulletins" have been published, giving advice as to book-buying in the cheapest markets, with a view to circumventing the net price system of the publishers. Some of these notes savour somewhat of advertisements, and seem rather out of place in a circular issued under the name of a professional society. Other suggestions are good, and if the committee will refrain from singling out the names of certain tradesmen for special mention, a very invidious course considering how many first-rate dealers of all kinds there are, the series will no doubt become useful.

THE *Building News* for August 12th, 1904, contains a long criticism on the plans sent in for the new **Peterborough** Public Library building. There were 111 competitive plans in all, and we should think this must surely be a record for buildings of this kind.



LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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CATALOGUES.

Hanley Public Free Library. List of Books on Pottery and Porcelain, Ornamental Design, &c., contained in the Reference and Lending Libraries. Compiled by A. J. Milward, Chief Librarian. 20 pp. 1904.

In three parts: History; Chemistry, Manufacture, and Decoration; and Ornamental Design, Flower Studies, &c. The list is annotated fully, and in a very able manner. Some of the notes, however, are rather long—one running to seventeen lines—and a little judicious pruning would have been an improvement.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Libraries. Catalogue of Books in the Juvenile Section: Central Library. 8+107 pp. 8°. 6½"×4".

In an alphabetical sequence of author and title entries. Entries have been made as simple as possible, and fiction is distinguished from non-fiction by the latter having the date of publication added. The catalogue is well produced, and is of a handy size for the pocket.

REPORTS.

Blackburn, 1903-4. Stock 63,794 volumes; borrowers 2,462; volumes issued 185,924 (reference 38,390, lending 96,956, delivery station 17,458, school libraries 33,120), last year 165,270. The greatest

increase of use has been in the reference department, and it has been found necessary to provide additional accommodation. The question of ventilating the building has for some time been under consideration, and it is hoped that a satisfactory scheme will be carried out shortly.

Durban, 1903-4. Stock 15,066 volumes; subscribers 600; volumes issued 35,122. The reference department has been enlarged to as great an extent as the present building allows. An analysis of the most popular books in each class of literature is given.

Victoria, 1903. Stock 203,757 volumes; borrowers 8,443; volumes issued 178,775 (excluding reference department), last year 167,847. The present accommodation is unsuitable for library purposes, and the question of future provision must be dealt with shortly. A paragraph in the report is worthy of note: "During the year the trustees devoted a considerable amount of attention to the question of the exclusion of undesirable visitors to the library. . . They had almost decided to introduce a system that would require all readers desiring access to the shelves to provide themselves with a pass, whilst not refusing any of the public access to the building or the use of any particular books. Careful inquiry, however, elicited the fact that the percentage of undesirable readers is a very small one, and it was felt that the great majority of readers would be somewhat burdened in order to deal with a comparative few whose attendance is not desired."

West Ham, 1903-04. Stock 71,282 volumes; volumes issued 356,358 (lending 225,528, reference 130,830). The most important events of the year have been the offer of £5,000 from Dr. Carnegie for a branch library, and the opening of the Plaistow Public Library, a gift from Mr. Passmore Edwards. The provision of libraries for the schools of the borough is under consideration. The work of the libraries in general has improved during the year.

BULLETINS.

Accrington. *Journal*. In the July-September number the list of Historical Works of Fiction is continued, and an annotated list of additions is given. There are also notes "On Matters Educational," and two pages of quotations from Bacon, Mill, Ruskin, &c. A very good bulletin, but more balance in the annotations is desirable.

Nottingham. *Library Bulletin*. The October number opens with a quotation from an introductory note to "Delicia," reprinted by permission of Miss Marie Corelli; also contains the sixth instalment of the author list of fiction, a list of additions, principal additions to the reference library, a special list on the Laws of Health, and general notes. A very creditable publication, but one that would be improved by the omission of the extracts and some of the general notes.

St. Louis. *Monthly Bulletin*. The issue for September contains the usual annotated list of additions. There is also an article on "Library Exhibits at the World's Fair." It outlines the proceedings for the revision of the "A.L.A. Catalog," and describes the proposed

Model Library as well as the one actually exhibited. The October number contains the list of additions, and lists of Books about Business, and Novels and Tales of the Weird and Supernatural.

West Ham. *Library Notes.* As usual, this forms an imposing pennyworth. It contains annotated lists of additions, lists of articles and stories in current magazines, several pages of notes and "Jottings," and several illustrations.

From **Workington** comes "A Short History of the Public Library Movement, 1889-1904," issued as a souvenir of the opening of the new library and lecture hall. It details the history of the library from the time of the Mechanics' Institution, from which it sprung, down to the present day. The building includes:—Lending library, about 60-ft. by 36-ft.; newsroom, 50-ft. by 30-ft.; magazine room, 30-ft. by 25-ft.; reference library, 40-ft. by 26-ft.; juvenile reading room, 36-ft. by 26-ft.; committee room and librarian's office, 20-ft. by 16-ft.; cataloguing and typewriting room, 20-ft. by 14-ft.; and a basement for heating apparatus, coals, and stores.



THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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THE principal item in the September *Library Association Record* in the Presidential address of Dr. Thomas Hodgkin, delivered at the conference at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and noted in our last number. Edward McKnight contributes a short paper on Brunet's classification scheme, and gives his idea as to how it should be altered to bring it up to date.

The October *Library Assistant* is a newsroom number. It opens with a rejoinder by G. E. Roebuck to the paper on Newsrooms which appeared in the previous issue. There is also a resumé of one of the association's "Evercirculators" on Newsrooms. The balance of the opinions—which, by the way, have been summarised by Henry T. Coutts, the editor of the "Evercirculator"—seem to be in favour of the provision of newsrooms, and are interesting as showing the opinions of those members of the staff who actually come in contact with that department. The official announcement of the scheme of Proficiency Tests, organised for the purpose of enabling an assistant to "ascertain what standard of proficiency he or she can attain in any of the subjects now recognised as necessary to a full training," is also printed. The subjects arranged for are English Literature, Elementary Bibliography, Classification, Cataloguing, and Library Practice, and recognised authorities on these have been secured as examiners.

In the *Library Journal* for September, Adelaide R. Hasse writes on "The classification of Numismatics." After examining the various existing schemes, she gives her idea of a scheme. Mary E. Hazeltine contributes a paper on "Co-operation of Librarian and Kindergartner."

It is mainly a summary of the methods of the representatives libraries of eighteen states on: (1) the relation between the library and the kindergartner as a student of educational methods; (2) relation between the library and the mother's club as a corollary of the kindergarten; and (3) the provision made by the libraries for books for children from four to six years of age. "Headings for Government Publications," "Notes on Children's Reading," and "The Destruction of the Turin Library," are the titles of the short articles,

The *Literary Collector* for August contains a long article by Sylvanus P. Thompson on "The Sign of the Brazen Serpent," which deals with Peter Short, a London printer of the end of the sixteenth century, and traces the various marks he used. A list of "First Editions of Hawthorne" with record prices is also given. In a paper entitled "Was Phillis Wheatley America's First Negro Poet?," Oscar Wegelin makes an "attempt to prove false the time-worn statement that Phillis Wheatley was the first poet of color on this continent," and puts forward the claim of one Jupiter Hammon to that distinction.

The *Revista delle Biblioteche e degli Archivi* opens with an article on the prevention of fire in libraries by Timoteo Bertelli Barnabita. Alceste Giorgetti describes the new building for the housing of the public archives of Vienna. Guido Biagi writes on a future international congress for the reproduction of manuscripts, coins, and seals. The title-page and contents to volume fourteen are included in this number.



THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

SCIENCE AND ART.

Greenwood (Edgar). Classified guide to technical and commercial books. A subject-list of the principal British and American works in print. London: Scott, Greenwood & Co., 1904. 8°, 8½", pp. xii. + 216. Price 7s. 6d. net.

A catalogue arranged in an alphabetical order of subjects, like Agriculture, Art, Engineering, Foods, Photography, Textile Trades, &c., with publishers and prices. An index of topics is supplied.

In this work Mr. Greenwood has successfully accomplished a task which not only supplements Sonnenschein's "Best Books," but brings up to date the record of technical literature in English. The guide is arranged under topics by titles, an order less logical and useful than an author alphabet, and gives very full lists of books on every conceivable subject which can be termed technical. Books on mercantile law, libraries, insurance, music, and other subjects are included, and from this may be gathered some idea of the comprehensiveness of the selection. It is a tool which every public and technical library must obtain, and librarians are under deep obligations to Mr. Edgar Greenwood for publishing a mass of information which hitherto every librarian has been compelled to seek for himself in a more or less imperfect way.

Thomson (Ella). Botany rambles. Part III.—In the Autumn. London: Horace Marshall & Son, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. 247 to 378, *illustr.* Price 1s.

Elementary lessons on flowers, fruits, and trees in their autumn aspects, a sequel to the spring and summer seasons of the same work.

Boole (Mary E.). The Preparation of the child for science. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. 158. Price 2s.

The training of the youthful mind for scientific observation by means of mathematical and other processes.

A useful and suggestive work in view of the movement in favour of introducing scientific and reasoned methods into every field of work and human activity.

Isobel. Pearson's Home management... London: C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., 1904. 8°, 8½", pp. xlvii. + 994, *col. illustr.* Price 10s. 6d.

A handbook of domestic economy, divided into sections devoted to house management, cookery in all its branches, servants, furnishing, toilet, gardening, domestic medicine, and every point connected with the household.

A well-illustrated, well-indexed, and complete work on modern cookery and domestic economy, well adapted for general library purposes.

Carter (Ada F.). The Care of horses, a book for all who have practical charge of horses. London: George Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 7", pp. viii. + 112, *illustr.* Price 1s. 6d. net. [No INDEX.]

A general account of different kinds of horses, stables, bits, riding, draught-horses, vices, food, shoeing, &c., designed as a guide to horse owners and stable hands, and to induce greater attention to horse management.

SOCIAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

Herrick (Cheesman A.) Meaning and practice of commercial education. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. xvi + 378, *illustr.*, *bibliography*. Price 5s. net.

An account of commercial education and the commercial schools and colleges of Germany, France, Belgium, England, and the United States, with statistics of institutions and descriptions of methods of instruction.

A useful work on a subject which has been somewhat neglected in this country. Valuable at the present time for the side-lights which it casts on the fiscal question, by showing the superior educational methods of Germany and the United States in all that relates to commerce.

Webb (Catherine). *Industrial Co-operation: the story of a peaceful revolution. Being an account of the history, theory, and practice of the co-operative movement in Great Britain and Ireland. ... Manchester: Co-operative Union, Ltd., 1904. 8°, 8½", pp. xx. + 278, ports. Bibliography. Price 2s. 6d. net.*

An account of industrial co-operation from 1799 to the present time, with sections on the practical work and leaders of the movement, and on the educational and other activities.

Dexter (Edwin Grant). *A History of Education in the United States. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1904. 8°, 8", pp. xxii. + 656. Price 8s. 6d. net.*

An account of American educational methods of every kind, from early times to the present day, with chapters on educational extension, embracing libraries, periodicals, summer schools, learned societies, museums, and lectures.

A useful and complete work, which skims the surface of a great subject in an agreeable and effective manner. Every aspect of the subject is touched upon, and full references are given to the literature of every topic.

Angus (Joseph). *The Bible handbook, an introduction to the study of sacred scripture. A new edition, thoroughly revised and in part re-written by Samuel G. Green. London: Religious Tract Society, 1904, 8°, 8¼", pp. xvi. + 832. Price 6s. net.*

Reprint of a book on the texts, interpretation, and books of the Bible originally issued in 1853, but completely revised and rearranged.

A valuable addition to the ordinary reference books of libraries, containing a huge store of facts relating to every point of interest connected with Biblical study.

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY.

Weale (B. L. Putnam). *Manchu and Muscovite. Being letters from Manchuria written during the autumn of 1903. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1904. 8°, 9", pp. xx. + 552, illust., maps. Price 10s. net. [No INDEX.]*

A descriptive account of Manchuria as it was in 1903, giving a series of sketches of the Russian occupation and aggressions, and details of the trade, people, and customs of the country.

A vivid, and, at the present time, almost indispensable, work on the Russian-Japanese-Chinese relations in Manchuria. It gives a remarkably prophetic forecast of some episodes of the present war, and includes a great series of important facts about the country presented in a fresh and interesting style.

Newberry (Percy E.) and John **Garstang**. A Short history of Ancient Egypt. London: A. Constable & Co., Ltd., 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. x. + 112, *maps*. Price 3s. 6d. net.

A brief history of the various dynasties of Egypt, from the earliest times to 332 B.C.

Smith (Mrs. A. Murray). Westminster Abbey, painted by John Fulleylove, R.I., described by Mrs. A. Murray Smith. With twenty-one full-page illustrations in colour. London: A. & C. Black, 1904. 8°, 8½", pp. viii. + 147. Price 7s. 6d. net.

A brief reference to the architecture of the Abbey, followed by a full description of the memorials to the dead contained within its walls.

The illustrations will appeal to every lover of English architecture and our national history. Some of these plates are of exceptional quality, and the interest of all is manifestly increased by the short note descriptive of each subject. The authoress modestly subordinates her work to that of the artist, but we can commend her chatty description of the memorials.

Litchfield (Frederick). How to collect old furniture. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 1", pp. xiv. + 169. Price 5s. net.

Fully illustrated description of the furniture of the Renaissance and Jacobean periods and eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Also some account of Continental furniture, and hints, cautions, and a glossary of terms.

One may appreciate this book without possessing the financial qualifications of a collector, for Mr. Litchfield, thorough master of his subject, writes pleasantly on the attractive pursuit of old furniture, and has much to teach. The chapter on "faked" pieces should be read by collectors, and the glossary will be useful to all readers. It is pleasant to be told that "the collection of old furniture may be made not only a very fascinating hobby, but a judicious investment of capital."

Besant (Sir Walter). London in the time of the Tudors. London: A. & C. Black, 1904. 4°, 11", pp. x. + 430, *illust., maps*. Price 30s. net.

A volume of the "Survey of London," being the historical record down to 1603, and embracing the reign of the Tudors (1485-1603). Contains sections devoted to the Court, Religion, Elizabethan London, Government and Trade, and Social Life, illustrated with reproductions of old prints, plans, portraits, &c.

This handsome volume is another step towards the great survey of London which Sir Walter Besant projected and partly carried out before his death. It forms, with the previous volumes, a continuous narrative of London history down to recent times, and will no doubt form the introduction to the detailed survey, parish by parish, which forms part of the scheme. This volume has interesting chapters on Literature and Art, Gog and Magog, Food and Drink, Dress, Apprentices, Inns, Theatres, and other leading features which make the history

and topography so enticing to the antiquary and general student. As most Public Libraries, and especially the London ones, doubtless possess valuable work, it is not necessary to give in more detail a summary of its contents, but to commend it warmly to all book-buyers as a desirable possession.

Johnston (Alexander Keith) and G. H. **Johnston**. *The Handy Royal Atlas of modern geography, exhibiting the present condition of geographical discovery and research in the several countries, empires, and states of the world.* Edinburgh: W. & A. K. Johnston, 1904. Fo., 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", 51 *maps*. Price 25s.

A series of fifty-one maps of all the countries of the world, with a large index.

This fine atlas well maintains its claim to be one of the best and most complete one-volume collection of maps in existence. It has been thoroughly revised, the index has been overhauled, and in every respect the atlas has been brought up to date. It is an ideal atlas for use in open-access reference libraries, being sufficiently large, without being clumsy, to satisfy all wants, and being also strongly bound and handsome in appearance. The atlas is so well known for accuracy and general excellence that it is unnecessary to do more than strongly recommend this re-issue to the notice of librarians.

BIOGRAPHY.

Rose (John Holland). *The Life of Napoleon I., including new materials from the British official records* London: G. Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". 2 vols., *illustr., maps, plans*. Price 10s. net.

A complete life of Napoleon I., from 1769 to 1821, reprinted from the edition of 1901.

That a work in this field of historical biography should have reached a fourth edition in about three years is a remarkable testimony to the interest of the subject, and the merit of its treatment. Dr. Rose's work is pretty well known in its original form to most librarians, and this admirable, cheap, and revised issue should be welcomed by a large circle of readers.

Rose (John Holland). *Napoleonic studies.* London: G. Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 8", pp. xii. + 398, *plans*. Price 7s. 6d. net. [No INDEX.]

A series of essays reprinted from reviews, &c., on the following topics:—Wordsworth, Schiller, Fichte, and the idealist revolt against Napoleon; Pitt's plans for the settlement of Europe; the religious belief of Napoleon; Egypt during the first British occupation; Canning and Denmark in 1807; a British agent in Tilsit; Napoleon and British commerce; Britain's food supply in the Napoleonic war; the Whigs and the French war; Austria and the downfall of Napoleon; the Prussian co-operation at Waterloo; the detention of Napoleon by Great Britain; notes and documents.

A valuable and necessary series of papers in supplement to Dr. Rose's well-known life of Napoleon.

Jack (Adolphus Alfred). Shelley, an essay. London: A. Constable & Co., Ltd., 1904. 8°, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", pp. 128. Price 3s. 6d. net. [No INDEX.]

A critical appreciation of the works of Shelley the poet, and an attempt to answer the question, "Who is Shelley, and what is the attitude in which, to understand him, we ought to approach his poetry."

Paolo Veronese. London: George Newnes, Ltd., 1904. 4°, 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", pp. xxxvi. and 64 *plates*. Price 3s. 6d. net. [No INDEX.]

A volume of Newnes' Art Library, with an introduction, biographical and critical, by Mrs. Arthur Bell, and reproductions in black and white of sixty-four of the artist's chief pictures. A useful addition to the series.

Brown (James Duff). Classified List of Current Periodicals, a guide to the selection of Magazine Literature. (The Library Association Series, No. 8.) London: Library Association, 1904. 8°, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", pp. x. + 32. Price 6d. net.

Another of Mr. Brown's practical and valuable contributions to the literature of book-selection. The list is classified into ten main classes, with various sub-divisions, and comprises the titles, places of publication, and prices of 768 of the principal magazines of the world in all departments of knowledge. In the work of selecting titles, Mr. Brown was assisted by various experts, and the result is a very complete and useful list, which no librarian can afford to ignore, since it is the only attempt ever made to reduce the world's output of periodical literature to a select list of the *best*, thus rendering choice more easy and catholic.



LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

PROGRAMME OF MONTHLY MEETINGS IN LONDON, SESSION 1904-5.

THE Meetings will be held at 8 p.m., on the Third Monday in each month at 20, Hanover Square, W., until the March Meeting, the three remaining Meetings being held at the London School of Economics, Clare Market, W.C., unless otherwise notified in the *Library Association Record*. All Members, in or near London especially, are desired to attend the Meetings as regularly as possible.

1904. LIST OF PAPERS AND AUTHORS.

November 21st.—ENGLISH BOOKS AT THE ST. LOUIS EXHIBITION, 1904. By Cyril Davenport, Department of Printed Books, British Museum.

December 19th.—SOME IMPRESSIONS OF A VISIT TO AMERICA. By L. Stanley Jast, Librarian, Croydon.

January 16th.—STATE AID TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES.—By Thomas E. Maw, Librarian, King's Lynn.

INDEXES WANTED. By Walter Powell, Sub-Librarian, Birmingham.

- February 20th.—SOME ASPECTS OF THE WORK OF HENRY BRADSHAW. By C. F. Newcombe, Assistant Librarian, Central Library, Camberwell.
 THE GOLDEN AGE OF BOOK ILLUSTRATION. By Robert K. Dent, Librarian, Aston Manor.
- March 20th.—SOME NOTES ON PANIZZI AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PRINTED BOOKS IN THE FORTIES. By T. W. Lyster, M.A., Librarian, National Library of Ireland.
 THE CUTTER CLASSIFICATION. By Thomas Aldred, Librarian, Southwark.
- April 17th.—BOOK ANNOTATION.—By E. A. BAKER, M.A., Librarian, Wallasey.
- May 15th.—OLD NEWSPAPERS. By George Smith.
- June 19th.—THE STANDARD LIBRARY ON MUDIE LINES. By Ernest A. Savage, Librarian, Bromley, Kent.

HENRY BOND.

October, 1904.

Hon. Sec. (pro. tem.) Publications Committee.

BRISTOL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BRANCH.

THE third meeting of the Bristol and Western District Branch of the Library Association was held under delightful circumstances at Chew Court, by the kind invitation of the president, Ald. John Walls. About forty members travelled from Bristol to Pensford, where brakes were waiting to convey the party to Stanton Drew. Here an interesting paper on the Druidical remains, prepared by Mr. Herbert Bolton, F.R.S.E., was read, in the writer's unavoidable absence, by Mr. Norris Mathews.

On the propositions of Mr. C. Newth, seconded by Mr. W. Jones, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Bolton.

The party then visited the church at Stanton Drew, under the leadership of its rector, who pointed out the features of interest. Resuming the journey, the members proceeded by brakes to Chew Court, where they were hospitably entertained by Alderman John Walls and Mrs. Walls.

Alderman Walls described the historic associations of this grand old mediæval residence, once occupied by the Bishop of Bath and Wells; and the party then inspected the house, and were shown the old Court Chamber, with its fine open timber roof. The interesting church of St. Andrew, adjoining the Court, was next inspected, under the guidance of its vicar.

The business meeting was held at the Court, the president taking the chair.

The president (Ald. John Walls) expressed the delight it gave him and Mrs. Walls to receive the Association.

It was announced that the next meeting would be held in Bath, and that the members would be welcomed by that city.

Mr. Norris Mathews gave a detailed account of the 27th annual conference of the Library Association, held last week at Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Mr. L. Acland Taylor followed with a paper on "The Reference Library," in the course of which he compared the establishment of these institutions in the United Kingdom with similar foundations in Germany, showing that for every book of reference provided for the inhabitants of these islands, our keen competitors, the Germans, have two. After dealing with the formation of the library, or selection of works, he proceeded to state that the library was of service only in proportion to the use made of it. The next consideration, therefore, was to make it known. There could be no surer means to this end than to make it useful. Lists of the principal accessions could be sent to the local press. Special hand lists on definite subjects might be printed and sent through the post to citizens likely to make use of them. Architects, engineers, artists, art students, and others might be supplied with particulars of books which, by nature of their profession or pursuit, they were specially interested in. The small outlay requisite would be amply repaid by public interest in the undertaking. Above all, the people would begin to realize the value of their reference libraries. The library equipped and the interest of the public enlisted, we proceed to consider how demands might be met. All now depends upon the administration of the institution and the attitude of the staff. Tactful dealing with the public is a necessity, and should go hand in hand with that study of character which none more than the librarian has such opportunity of practising. The earnest seeker after knowledge is often the most sensitive in the matter of giving trouble. With a little tact such individuals might be convinced of the willingness of its staff to further their enquiries, and so become sensible to the blessings of the Public Library. The librarian's personal knowledge of the library he administers, his familiarity with its classification, nature, and contents judiciously exercised, will do much to establish confidence in the great utility of the reference library. As this confidence becomes more extended, so will demands for more general establishment strengthen.

At the close of the meeting, Mr. Newth proposed a vote of thanks to Alderman and Mrs. Walls for their hospitality. This was seconded by Mr. F. Shum, of Bath, and carried with enthusiasm.

NORTH MIDLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE fifteenth annual meeting of the North Midland Library Association was held in the University College, Nottingham, on Thursday, October 6th. Mr. Radford, the President, occupied the chair during the earlier part of the proceedings, and Mr. Corns, the new President, at a later stage. Owing to removals to distant places, two members resigned. Two assistant librarians were elected to membership. Mr. Briscoe, the Hon. Sec. presented a report of the year's proceedings; and Mr. Lineker, Treasurer, gave a very satisfactory

financial statement. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Mr. Corns, Lincoln; Vice-President, Mr. C. Gerring, Nottingham; Hon. Secretary, (eleventh consecutive year) M. J. Potter Briscoe; Hon Treasurer. Mr. A. Lineker; (fourth year) Hon. Auditor, Mr. T. Glover, Lenton, (third year); and Representative to the Library Association, Mr. Gerring. A full report of the proceedings of the Library Association at Newcastle-on-Tyne was given by Mr. W. Crowther, Derby. This was followed by the reading of a short paper on "Douglas Jerrold, wit and humourist," by Mr. Briscoe. The next meeting will probably be held at Ilkeston on December 8th, the April meeting in Lincoln; and the June meeting at Leicester.

LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

INAUGURAL MEETING.

THE first meeting of the tenth session of this Association was held on Wednesday, 12th October, at the London School of Economics, when Mr. Sidney Webb, LL.B., gave an address on "How to Improve the Library Service."

The chair was taken by Mr. H. J. Mackinder, M.A., Director of the School.

They could not congratulate themselves, Mr. Webb said, on the position of the librarian's profession at the present time. Those engaged in it did not receive that generous recognition or appreciation from the public which the value of their work demanded. This unsatisfactory state of affairs was not merely a grudging of the necessary pounds, shillings, and pence; but it was part of that general undervaluing of the intellectual side of life of which England, during the nineteenth century, had perhaps been more guilty than other nations. He thought that the prizes of the profession should not go to persons, however eminent and distinguished, who were outside the profession. The means to remedy this unsatisfactory position lay largely with the library assistants of to-day. They were too apt to concur with the public view that the business of the librarian was very much one of routine. The way to improve the profession was for librarians to make themselves more worthy of greater appreciation and higher reward. As far as the profession was concerned, he did not think a little knowledge was a dangerous thing. He who did not know one or two languages beside his own, and who had not a smattering of others sufficient to enable him to spell out a title-page, was only at the beginning of his education. The aim of young librarians must be to mark themselves out among their fellows, and the way to do that was to prepare some piece of original research.

At the conclusion, on the motion of Mr. W. G. Chambers, chairman of the Association, Mr. Webb was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his address.

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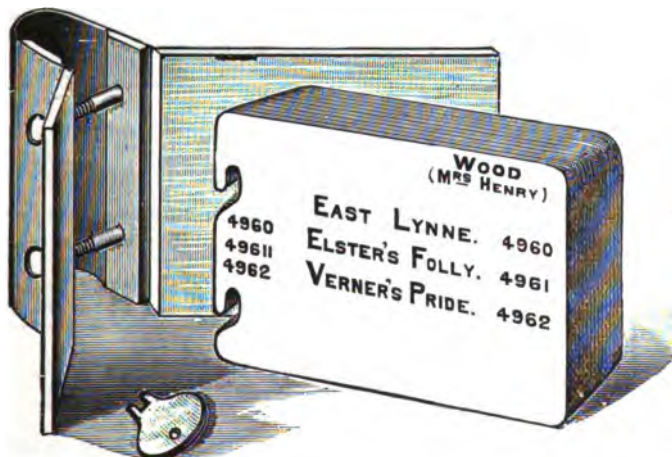
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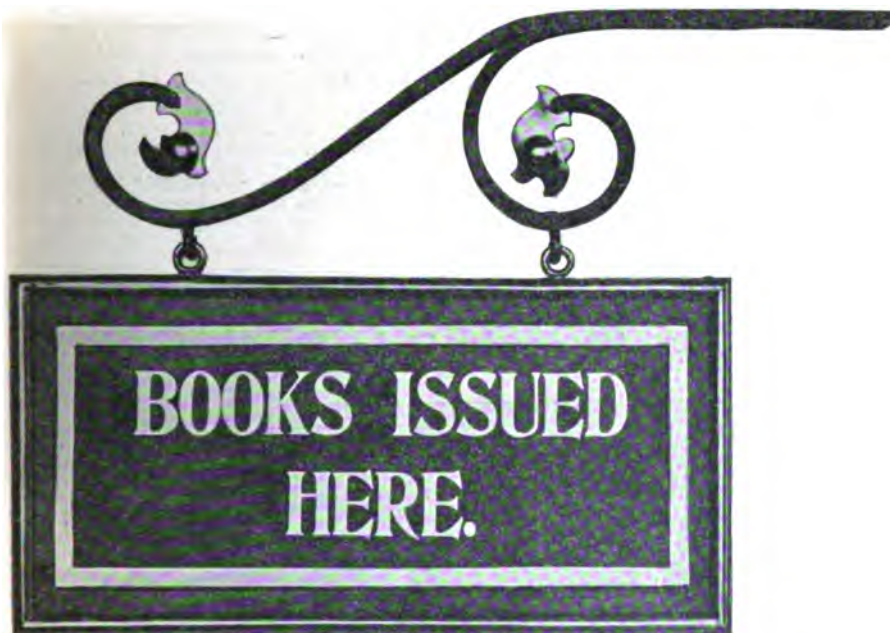
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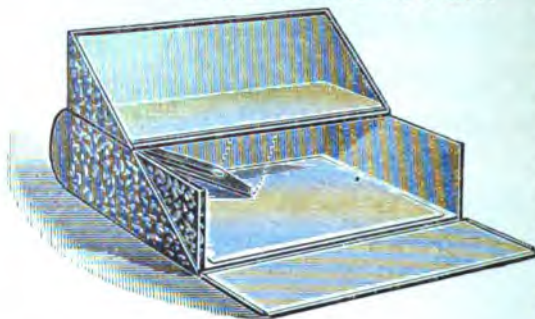
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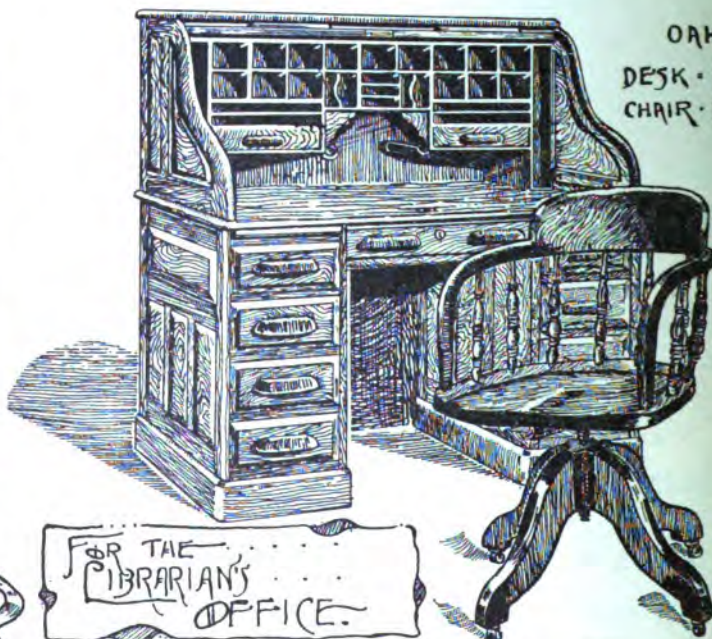
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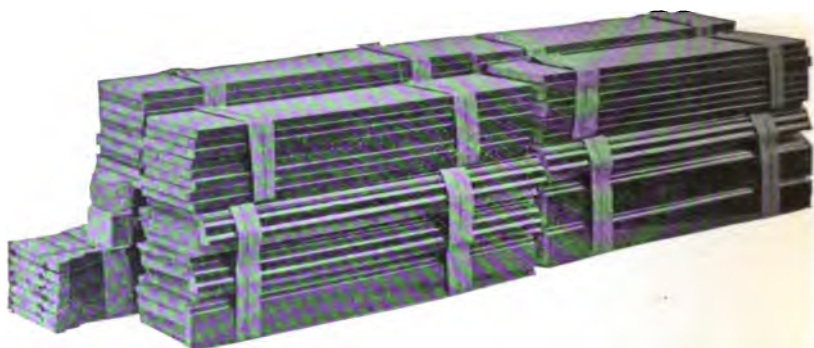
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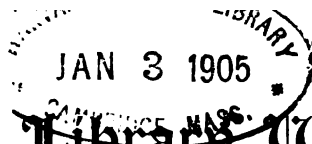
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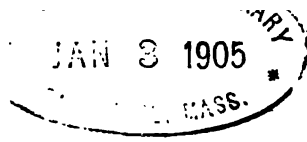
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A NOTE ON OPEN ACCESS IN AMERICA.

By L. STANLEY JAST, *Chief Librarian, Croydon.*

o o o

IN his admirable survey of library methods and problems in Great Britain, read—unfortunately by proxy—at the St. Louis meeting of the American Library Association, which the author of this paper had the pleasure of hearing, Mr. Bond, in writing of open access, was courageous enough to say that the system in question was the system of the future. It is true that he put that future a long way off, but it is none the less creditable to Mr. Bond's fairness and foresight that he recognises and admits that *some* time the system of shelf access—perhaps a better term than open access—is bound to prevail, and become the rule rather than the exception in the library administration of this country. One has therefore a shrewd suspicion that much of the fierceness with which the system and the personalities of those who have adopted and approved it, have been assailed, is due to an uneasy feeling on the part of its opponents that time is on the other side, and that they can at best only put the clock back, not stop it.

That Mr. Bond should have thus boldly adventured this desperate prophecy in America is perhaps as well. While it failed, so far as I observed, to thrill the audience to which it was addressed, I shudder to think of the effect it might have had, coming from one who has not hitherto been recognised as on the side of the future in this particular regard, upon an assembly of British librarians. But said where it was said, it must have merely fitted in with the American librarian's general conception of the stage we have reached in library work in Great Britain, *i.e.*, some decade or so behind its stage in the United States—a conception in many respects quite in accord with the facts—as in, for example, this thing we are discussing—open access. For myself, Mr. Bond's prophecy did certainly thrill *me*. Here, thought I, is a go-ahead, able, and modern British librarian, carefully relegating (lest he might be esteemed *too* adventurously rash) to a vague future a system of library management which is "the accepted thing" in many typical American libraries, and which, so far as one department is concerned, anyhow, has passed beyond discussion—if indeed it has not been taken for granted from the very first—I mean the children's room.

In the controversy which has raged over this question of shelf access, the point which has been most dwelt upon—naturally, as there is no other argument against open access worth serious consideration—is *loss*. Every loss sustained by any library in which shelf access in any form, and under any conditions, is permitted has been pressed into service for the discrediting of the particular system called "safe-guarded." The fact that in most, if not all, these cases, the special features of the "safe-guarded" system have been conspicuous by their absence has been intentionally ignored, and utterly fallacious comparisons and conclusions have been the result.

Volume VII. No. 78. December, 1904.

No losses have been hailed with greater joy by certain people, or more widely written up and advertised, than those of some of the large American open access libraries. But if along with these figures certain details as to the regulations under which these libraries are carried on were supplied, a very different light indeed would be thrown upon them. I propose very briefly to point out in what ways open access in America differs from "safe-guarded" open access, as introduced at Clerkenwell. In the first place there is often no barrier whatever, neither wicket nor turnstile, at the entrance to the lending library. More than that, in some libraries, persons passing in and out of the library, do not need to pass the staff counter or desk at all. There are libraries, usually only partly open access, in which the books on open shelves are in a room other than that in which is the staff counter, and books must be taken out of this room and to the counter to be charged, and it is not *necessary* to go to the counter on the way out. Where there are turnstiles they are mainly for the purpose of ensuring that people shall pass in on one side and out on the other.

A second, and far more fundamental difference, is that persons are not required to be members of the library before they are admitted amongst the shelves. Anyone may pass in. "Browsing" is not only permitted but encouraged, and chairs and tables are provided for those who wish to sit down and read. If no book is taken, the reader simply passes out; entrance and exit are as absolutely free as in our news and magazine departments. Indeed, in what may perhaps be regarded as the typical arrangement, the reference and magazine departments are entered *from* the lending library. Consequently *everybody* passes in and out by the staff counter, whether newspaper, magazine, or book reader, and whether home reader or not.

Contrast these arrangements—the freedom of which must make the conservative British librarian gasp—with those of a "safe-guarded" library. Here, no one enters until he presents his book or ticket as evidence that he is a properly registered borrower or accredited messenger, and no one can depart until he presents the book chosen at the exit end of the counter. The department is not for reading; no chairs invite the borrower to remain; he is there to choose his book and go.

Can it be wondered at, that under the *régime* of the American open access library the number of books lost is often large—very large it may seem to us? But, viewed in connection with the facts as given above, it must be rather considered as a testimony to the honesty of the American public, that the losses are comparatively so small.

And this is the view that the libraries themselves take. They—the librarians, the library boards—believe that the system by which the public have the freest possible use of the library, and the books in it, is the *best* system—losses notwithstanding. They do *not* look at this question as we do. To us it may seem that the freedom granted is akin to license, that our more cautious methods give practically the same freedom with much more protection—that is not their point of view. Libraries aside—it isn't the American point of view. In

America they don't bother you with tickets in the tram-cars, which you have to show every five minutes to an inspector; you pay your five cents, the conductor registers the fare on a dial at the end of the car, and there's an end. Doubtless the companies lose a certain amount through dishonest conductors—in spite of private detectives—but that's part of the running expenses; and the public is not penalised by vexatious restrictions in order that the companies may not be a few dollars out of pocket at the end of the year.

It's the same point of view, exactly.



DO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKS SPREAD DISEASE?

By JOHN RIVERS, *Public Libraries, Hampstead.*

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ANY time these twenty years, the dove-cotes of a nervous public have been periodically fluttered by a more or less hysterical press-warning against the danger of contagion from the circulation of library books. The scare is commonly started by a medical man, *pro bono publico*, sometimes it is inspired by the ingenuous enemies of the Public Library movement, whilst at other times the motive appears to be that of the school urchin, who delights to give people the "creeps." But whatever reason these worthy people may have for giving up their "studied ease" to jump into the arena, their facts are invariably of the most "mimsy" character, whilst the modest self-complacency with which they all take credit for "drawing public attention to a danger," is both delightful and pathetic.

The hero of the latest scare is a country doctor who, having noticed some library books lying about in an infected house, felt it his duty to write to the *Daily Mail* on the subject. His notions of Public Library methods are at least as hazy as those of his forerunners, and it has evidently never occurred to him that any precautions are taken against what is, after all, merely a hypothetical danger.

Yet since a section of the public undoubtedly do consider library books as a possible agent in spreading disease, it is only right that we should do all in our power to allay their fears. To this end, it is desirable that close relations be maintained between the library and the public health office. The latter should be requested to supply daily lists of cases of infectious disease occurring in the district, and these should be carefully checked by the library registers. Books from infected houses should, if possible, be sent to the sanitary department for disinfection before being returned to the library; and in cases of virulent disease, such as smallpox, it is desirable that the books be destroyed out of hand.

The experiments on books which have been subjected to possible contagion have been many. One of the most interesting, as it is one of the most instructive, was undertaken several years ago by Mr. W. H. Curtin, the medical officer of Lincoln. Having inoculated a number of slips of paper with the spores of *bacillus subtilis*, *staphylococcus pyogenes aureus*, and diphtheria, Mr. Curtin placed the slips in books, and disinfected them with the fumes of formic aldehyde. All the germs, with the exception of the first, were destroyed; and he was led to the conclusion that whilst this disinfectant was sufficiently strong to kill all non-sporing bacteria, such as the bacilli of typhoid, diphtheria or tuberculosis, and the ordinary pyogenic cocci, it would probably fail to destroy the spores of anthrax and tetanus. This, as Mr. Curtin pointed out, was most satisfactory, for books, if they became infected at all, would almost certainly be by the non-sporing bacteria, which were proved to be the most easily destroyed.

Even more elaborate experiments have been made in Germany and the United States, and only last year the subject received the attention of the Chicago Library Club, when the city bacteriologist, Dr. Adolph Gehrman, among others, announced the results of his own experiments on books which had come from houses where infectious diseases prevailed. His report was even more reassuring. The tests and cultures he made were "from much-used books in the reference room, as well as from books known to have been subjected to contagious infection, or at least to have come from houses where contagious diseases existed. The former showed only bacteria of slow action and low vitality, such as those commonly found on the skin—pneumonia bacilli, &c.; while even the latter produced nothing of alarming virulence. His conclusion was that while, under favourable circumstances, a book may be the medium of communicating almost any contagion, practically books are no more dangerous in this regard than the straps in street-cars, and many other objects which we never think of disinfecting." At this meeting it was decided that formalaldehyde was unquestionably the most satisfactory agent for the disinfection of books, as it was easily applied, and at the same time did not damage the volumes subjected to the process.

Thus librarians and medical officers of health, who have for many years given the matter their earnest consideration, are unanimous in the opinion that the risk of spreading infectious diseases through circulation of library books is almost infinitesimal. Moreover, there is not a single case on record of library assistants (who are, surely, more exposed to possible contagion than any of the public) contracting disease in the performance of their duties. And, even if it be admitted that Public Library books are favourite roosting-places of baleful microbes, their use can scarcely be more dangerous in this respect than riding in a public conveyance, or sitting on a public seat, or handling the coin of the realm, or a hundred other things which we do heedlessly every day of our lives. Indeed, we are forced to the conclusion that the perils of the microbe are largely mythical; and to think over-much of the risks of infection is to make life not worth the living.

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

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TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING, OCT. 17-22, 1904.—PROGRAMME.

MONDAY, October 17th, 1904.

2.30 p.m. *First General Session.*

A welcome to St. Louis—Frederick M. Crunden, Librarian, Public Library, St. Louis, Mo.

A welcome to the Exposition—Governor D. R. Francis, President of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

A welcome to the Hall of Congresses—Howard J. Rogers, Director of Congresses.

Response—For the A.L.A., President Herbert Putnam.

For the foreign delegates, L. Stanley Jast, representing the L.A.U.K.

President's Address—Dr. Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Reports of officers.

Secretary—J. I. Wyer, jun., Lincoln, Neb.

Treasurer—G. M. Jones, Salem, Mass.

Trustees of the Endowment Fund—C. C. Soule, Treasurer, Boston, Mass.

Reports of Standing Committees.

Finance—G. T. Little, Chairman.

Library Administration—W. R. Eastman, Chairman.

Public Documents—R. P. Falkner, Chairman.

Foreign Documents—C. H. Gould, Chairman.

Co operation with N.E.A.—J. H. Canfield, Chairman.

Library Training—Miss M. W. Plummer, Chairman.

A.L.A. Publishing Board—W. I. Fletcher, Chairman.

International Co-operation—E. C. Richardson, Chairman.

Reports of Special Committees.

A.L.A. Exhibit at Louisiana Purchase Exposition—Melvil Dewey, Chairman.

Gifts and Bequests—J. L. Harrison, reporter.

Permanent Headquarters—Herbert Putnam, Chairman.

Reduced Postal and Express Rates—W. C. Lane, Chairman.

Relations of Libraries to the Book Trade—A. E. Bostwick, Chairman.

Communications.

Miscellaneous business.

8 to 11 p.m. *Missouri State Building.*

Reception by the Missouri State Commission, the directors and friends of the Mercantile Library and of the Public Library, St. Louis, for the American Library Association.

A.L.A. Introduction Committee—Mrs. F. M. Crunden, Mrs. H. J. Carr, Miss Florence Woodworth, Miss Mary W. Plummer, Miss Katharine L. Sharp, Miss Alice B. Kroeger, Mr. F. W. Faxon.

TUESDAY, October 18th.

9.30 a.m. *Second General Session.*

Unfinished business.

Library work in Great Britain.

Library Extension—L. Stanley Jast, Chief Librarian, Croydon Public Libraries, and special delegate from the L.A.U.K.

Recent Library Practice—Henry Bond, Chief Librarian, Public Libraries, Woolwich.

Library Legislation—John J. Ogle, secretary for higher education, Booth.

Work with Children—John Ballinger, Chief Librarian, Public Libraries, Cardiff.

Training for Librarians—H. D. Roberts, Librarian, St. Saviour's Public Library, Southwark, and Honourable Secretary of the Education Committee of the Library Association.

Production of Books—Walter Powell, Deputy Librarian, Birmingham Free Libraries.

State aid to libraries.

Miss Gratia A. Countryman, Librarian, Public Library, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Discussion: The proper limit of State aid—Melvil Dewey, Director, State Library, Albany, New York.

2.30 p.m. *National Association of State Librarians. First Session.*

Address of welcome.

Frederick M. Crunden, Librarian, St. Louis Public Library.

President's response and address.

Johnson Brigham, Iowa.

Reports of Standing Committees.

On uniformity in session laws—Robert H. Whitten, New York; C. B. Galbreath, Ohio; Johnson Brigham, Iowa.

To consult with A.L.A. committee relative to magazine title pages and indexes, T. L. Montgomery, Pennsylvania; Maud Thayer, Illinois; E. M. Goddard, Vermont.

On State Library statistics—Flora B. Roberts, Michigan; W. E. Henry, Indiana.

On clearing-house for State publications—E. M. Goddard, Vermont; Anna G. Hubbard, Indiana; R. G. Whitten, New York.

Paper—State documents.

E. A. Nelson, Minnesota.

Discussion—W. E. Henry, Indiana; Mary E. Spencer, Michigan; Melvil Dewey, New York.

Report of committee on exchange and distribution of State documents.

Leonard D. Carver, Maine; C. B. Galbreath, Ohio.

American Bibliographical Society.

Meeting called by George Watson Cole, Secretary of the Organization Committee.

8 to 11 p.m. *Iowa State Building.*

Reception by the Iowa Library Association and the Iowa Commission to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition for the American Library Association.

A.L.A. Introduction Committee—Miss Alice S. Tyler, Miss Esther Crawford, Mr. J. F. Langton, Miss Anne Wallace.

WEDNESDAY, October 19th.

9.30 a.m. *Third General Session.*

Library work on the Continent.

Recent general progress in Italy—Prof. Dr. Guido Biagi, Librarian, Biblioteca Mediceo, Laurenziana, Florence, Italy.

General library situation in Italy—Signor Desidario Chilovi, Librarian, R. Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Florence, Italy.

Library progress in Vienna—Dr. Edouard Reyer, Central Bibliothek, Vienna.

Synopsis of the libraries of Austria and of the sources of their history—Dr. G. A. Cruewell, K. K. Universitaets-Bibliothek, Vienna.

State-supported libraries of Norway—H. Nyhuus, Librarian, Det Deichmanske Bibliothek, Christiania.

Research libraries in Denmark—Dr. H. O. Lange, Librarian, Det Store Kongelige Bibliothek, Copenhagen.

Research libraries of Sweden—Dr. Aksel Andersson, Vice-librarian, K. Universitets-Bibliothek, Upsala.

Report on Swedish Union Accessions Katalog—Dr. Andersson.

Popular libraries in Denmark—Dr. A. Steenberg, Horsens.

Progress and present status of libraries in New Zealand—Herbert Baillie, Esq., Librarian, Public Library, Wellington.

2.30 p.m. *National Association of State Librarians. Second Session.*

Influence of the library.

Thomas W. Hawkins, Missouri.

Discussion—Helen L. Grenfell, Colorado; Mary Skeffington, Tennessee; John P. Kennedy, Virginia.

Report of standing committee on plan of bibliographical work for the Association.

Adelaide R. Hasse, New York; T. L. Montgomery, Pennsylvania; George S. Godard, Connecticut.

General discussion.

Talk—Relations of State libraries to public school libraries.

Melvil Dewey, New York.

Unfinished business and election of officers.

Kansas State Library Association.

Fourth Annual Meeting. President: Miss Carrie M. Watson, University Library, Lawrence. Secretary: Miss Zu Adams, State Historical Society, Topeka.

Iowa Library Association. First Session.

Fifth Annual Meeting. President: Mrs. H. J. Howe, Marshalltown. Secretary: Miss Miriam E. Carey, Public Library, Burlington.

Business session and discussion of topics of special interest to Iowa library workers.

Missouri Library Association.

Fifth Annual Meeting. President: Purd B. Wright, Public Library St. Joseph. Secretary: Miss Faith E. Smith, Public Library, Sedalia.

THURSDAY, October 20th.

9.30 a.m. *Fourth General Session.*

Classification: present tendencies.

Prof. Dr. Focke, Direktor, Der Kaiser-Wilhelms-Bibliothek, Posen. Comments—Charles Martel, assistant in charge of classification, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Cataloguing : present tendencies.

William C. Lane, Librarian, Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Mass. Comments—Clement W. Andrews, Librarian, the John Crerar Library, Chicago.

Revision of L.A.U.K. cataloguing rules : feasibility of a common code.

L. Stanley Jast, Chief Librarian, Croydon Public Libraries, England.

Annotation.

William I. Fletcher, Librarian, Amherst College Library, Amherst, Mass.

Libraries and schools : the work now done.

Miss Electra C. Doren, Librarian, Public Library, Dayton, Ohio.

Women in American libraries.

Mrs. Salome Cutler Fairchild, Vice-director, New York State Library School, Albany, N.Y.

2.30 p.m. *Iowa Library Association. Second Session.*

Round table discussions.

3.30 p.m. *New York State Library School Association.*

Annual business meeting.

FRIDAY, October 21st.

9.30 a.m. *Fifth General Session.*

Bibliographical undertakings of international concern ; Dr. E. C. Richardson, Senior Vice-president, presiding.

International catalog of scientific literature—Dr. Cyrus Adler, Librarian, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Institut International de Bibliographie—M. Paul Otlet, member of the governing committee, Brussels.

Concilium Bibliographicum—Dr. Herbert H. Field, Director, Zürich.

The Prussian Gesamtkatalog—Dr. Richard Fick, K. Bibliothek, Berlin.

Bibliography of official literature—Miss Adelaide R. Hasse, the New York Public Library.

Handbook of learned societies—James David Thompson, editor, Washington, D.C.

2.30 p.m. *State Library Commission's Section.*

Topic: National organization of State library commissions for more effective co-operation.

8 p.m. *Meeting of the A.L.A. Council.*

SATURDAY, October 22nd.

9.30 a.m. *Sixth General Session.*

Recent bibliography in the United States.

R. R. Bowker, editor *Library Journal*, New York City.

An annual review of library literature.

W. D. Johnston, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Report from the A.L.A. Council.

Report from tellers of election.

Reports from committees.

Unfinished business.

THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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THE October number of that imposing quarterly, *The Library*, contains several interesting articles. Robert Steele opens with a continuation of his article on "What Fifteenth-Century Books are About." In this part he deals with books on Divinity, and though "one might almost assert that every book dating from the true Middle Age—from the fall of Rome to the Italian Renaissance—was written with an ethical purpose," he limits his attention to works purely theological in character. He reviews the various sub-divisions of the subject, and mentions the most notable works, concluding with an analysis of the divinity books mentioned in Proctor's "Index." "Recent Foreign Literature" is noted by Elizabeth Lee. In 1644, when the split took place between the Presbyterians and the Independents, two leaders of the latter party—John Lilburne and Richard Overton—fought for liberty of conscience by means of the secret press. The whereabouts of these secret presses, and the literature that was printed at them, form the subject of an interesting article by H. R. Plomer. A report of the annual meeting of the Library Association at Newcastle-upon-Tyne is supplied by W. E. Doubleday. "The Newcastle Conference was at least as successful as many of its predecessors; and if the interim character of some portion of the programme detracted from immediate effectiveness, the papers were well up to the mark, and the discussions, if not brilliant, were useful." Allibone's "Critical Dictionary of English literature" is dealt with by Archibald L. Clarke. There is also a second and concluding instalment of the letters of Henry Bradshaw to officials of the British Museum. The index to the volume is given with this number.

The November *Library Assistant* opens with a brief report of the inaugural meeting, when Sidney Webb spoke on "How to improve the Library Service," and a *précis* of his paper is given. Mr. Webb said that on a former occasion he had regarded the Library Service as the whole function of supplying a city with books, but on this occasion he would take the narrower meaning of that phrase and endeavour to discover the means of improving the service and the condition of the staff of persons whose business it was, as librarians and assistants, to fulfil this function. The article in the number is a short but practical one by James D. Stewart on "The Compilation of Reading Lists." He deals with the choice of a subject, the collection of the material, and the treatment of the material for reading list purposes, and gives some examples. The special plea is for annotations and for a classified logical order rather than an accidental alphabetical one. "The references must not be arranged according to any accidental feature such as an author's name beginning with B or Y. If an arbitrary sequence must be used, it is better to arrange in chronological order, as this gives the historical development of the subject. The most satisfactory arrangement is by the *value* of the references." Altogether, a little paper that

goes a long way towards filling one of the *lacunae* in the literature of librarianship. There are the usual jottings, and we notice a letter from one signing himself "Puzzled," enquiring if there is any way—in the case of a library being re-catalogued while the books are in circulation—in which to make sure that all the books are dealt with! Either "Puzzled" must exist in some very antiquated corner of the globe, or he is very easily puzzled.

The October *Library Association Record* is the Conference number. The proceedings of the meeting at Newcastle, and the annual report of the Council constitute the greater part of the number, which contains about ninety pages. The paper read by Prof. Mark R. Wright on "The Public Reference Library and Secondary and Higher Education" is also given. In his opinion there is a want of union between the library and the educational bodies. "The missing link is the school and college library—a carefully selected set of books to illustrate lessons and lectures in Literature, Science and Art, as opposed to a mere collection of interesting books for off hours. The proposal that Free Libraries, might provide these sets and circulate them among institutions is not sound. Possession in books is important, and the library suggested should form a kind of working laboratory, and should necessarily belong to the school or college. These collections should not displace the text-books that should belong to the pupil. To use these libraries efficiently implies time for working among books, and a change in the type of lessons and lectures. It demands also more independence in the preparation of work, less didactic instruction on the part of teachers, more initiative on the part of scholars." He pleads for instruction in the use of catalogues, for special lists, and, above all, for open access. There is a long annotated list of the best English books in Philosophy and Religion published during 1903-4, compiled by Henry Guppy.

The October *Library Journal* opens with a paper by Arthur E. Bostwick, entitled "Old Probabilities in the Library—His Modest Vaticinations." This somewhat obscure head-line covers some very wide-awake consideration of problems of library work. The growth of libraries, open access, work with children, travelling libraries, the library as an educational institution, and the distribution of libraries in the future are among the points dealt with. Samuel G. Leask outlines "The Essentials of a Library Trustee." We print the necessary qualifications as a sort of mental rack for committeemen this side of the water:—"He is always public-spirited and willing to sacrifice time and expend effort for the public good. He will be heartily honest in his library work, and he will believe that a Public Library is a good thing. He will have experience in dealing with men and women that will enable him to select people for library work who are qualified to render good service, and when they cease to render good service he will not lack courage to do his duty and declare their places vacant. He will be a person who can co-operate heartily and cheerfully with others in library work, treating the librarian as his trusted friend and adviser, welcoming at all times from that quarter criticisms and suggestions, though not always acting on them. He will know how to deal with

figures, and be capable of arranging matters so that expenditure will never exceed income. He will not turn up his nose at politics and politicians, but will use, in an honourable way, his influence with them for the support of the institution committed to his charge. He may not be a profound student nor a great scholar, nor be cultivated out of all sympathy with his fellow-citizens and their affairs, but he will know something of books and their authors, and know a great deal about the tastes and capacities of his neighbours who read them. If, with all this, our trustee has a clear head over a heart that is not cold, and a touch of philanthropic zeal, tempered by the calm of a practical philosopher, we may rest assured that the library with which he is connected will do fairly well." It may be safely said that, like the ideal librarian, he does not exist. The tables of the scheme of classification of the International Congress of Arts and Science at St. Louis, are set out and commented upon by E. C. Richardson. Among the shorter articles is one by S. H. Ranck, on the relative shelf space occupied by English and American books. The result he arrives at is: every ten feet of shelving will contain an average of 96.8 American books and 86.3 English ones.

The *Literary Collector* for September contains a paper by H. R. Plomer on "John Bellamy, Publisher, 1620-1654." Bellamy is of special interest as the one who issued the first printed record of the Pilgrim Fathers of New England, and as one of the principal publishers of Americana. J. H. Slater contributes an article on "Some Books on Magic." and the usual departments conclude the number.



LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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CATALOGUES.

Brentford Public Library. Classified Catalogue of Books ; together with a List of Maps, Prints, Engravings, and Paintings of Local Interest. Compiled by Fred Turner, Librarian. pp. xxx. + 148. 8°, 8½" × 5½". *Frontis.* 1904.

Arranged according to the main headings of the "Adjustable" scheme, with sub-classes in alphabetical order. An author and subject index is given. Entries are across the page, and are reasonably full. Dates are given wherever possible in the case of non-fiction. Fiction is entered only under the author, and biography under the subject. The index has one or two faults, among them being entries like the following:—

ARNOLD (Matthew), 20, 28, 30, 31, 52, 64, 66, 105.

If a particular book were required, the chances are that it would be found at the page looked at last. What makes this sort of thing more irritating is that in some cases indications of the various books of an author *have* been given. Regarding the general arrangement, if it is to be a *classified* catalogue, why not have the class headings in logical

rather than alphabetical order? It is much more useful to the student, and by means of the index the general reader can find what he wants as easily as in the alphabetically arranged one. Setting this aside, the catalogue is accurately compiled, and much above the average. It is well produced and bound, and has for frontispiece a group photograph taken at the opening on 9th May, 1904.

Brighton Public Library. Victoria Lending Library. Class List of History, Travel, and Biography. pp. 335. 8°, 8½" × 5½". 1904. Price sixpence.

This forms the second part of the catalogue of the lending library. It is classified according to the Dewey scheme, and has author and subject indexes. It is compiled on much the same lines as the "A.L.A." Catalog," but has the first three letters of the author's name substituted for the Cutter number. Annotations are not given, but contents of important and miscellaneous works are set out. One of the best classified catalogues issued for some time.

Deichmanske Bibliothek. Katalog over Historisk Literatur. Udarbejdt af Haakon Nyhuus. pp. 8 + 411. 8°, 9½" × 6½". 1904. Paper covers.

Experience has taught us to expect something good from Haakon Nyhuus, and the present volume is no exception. It is classified on the Dewey system, and has the Cutter marks added. Entries are very full, and a description of the author with the dates of his life are given. Wherever necessary, annotations have been given, and contents of miscellaneous works set out. The one fault, and it is a great one, is that no author index is provided. The entries are in two columns. The following gives an idea of the style:—

Suhm, P. F., 1728—98, d. historiker.

Om de nordiske folks ældste op-
rindelse. Kbh. 1770. 32os. 4°.

q948.01Su30

„det meste af disse indledende under-
søgelser er nu ret betydningsløst.“

BULLETINS.

Brooklyn: Public Library and Pratt Institute. *Co-operative Bulletin*. October.

Croydon. *Reader's Index*. The November issue opens with an interesting bibliographical outline of the development of the English drama by William A. Peplow. The idea of these articles, though not new, is worth imitation. There are the usual annotated lists of additions. Following up his article in the current *Library Assistant*, Mr. James D. Stewart has a long annotated reading list on London.

Manchester. *Quarterly Record*. Additions to the Reference Library arranged in classified order according to Dewey, and books other than fiction added to the branch libraries.

Nottingham. *Library Bulletin*. Recent additions; selected books about China; additions to Reference Library; notes, and a notice of the works of "Mark Rutherford."

Willesden. *Quarterly Record.* Notes; an article on "Residents of Willesden and Neighbourhood in the time of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth"; list of additions to the library; Parochial paragraphs. The list of additions is more fully annotated than usual, and is very well done. Some of the notes, however, are rather diffuse, and could be edited with advantage.

Bootle sends lists of the free lectures to be given in connection with the library and museum. The free lectures to be given at the Central Library are: (1) Thomas Moore: his life and ballads (vocal illustrations); (2) How an up-to-date newspaper is produced (cinematograph illustrations); (3) The English lakes in Summer and Winter (lantern illustrations); (4) Cambridge and its colleges (lantern); (5) A night with English and American authors (with humorous and dramatic recitals); (6) A cruise in the western fjords of Norway (lantern); (7) Dust as seen through the microscope (lantern); (8) A thousand miles through France on a bicycle (lantern); (9) Rossini and Italian music (vocal and instrumental illustrations); (10) Pictures from Portugal (lantern); (11) Lord Tennyson: his poetry and his teaching (with recitals); (12) In and about Paris (lantern); (13) Modern methods of combating disease; (14) Japanese literature; (15) Impressions of Northern India (lantern); (16) A tour in Holland and Rhineland (lantern); (17) How we charm their secrets from the sun and stars (lantern); (18) The life and works of Mendelssohn (vocal and instrumental illustrations). Short lists of books on the subjects of the lectures are supplied. There is also a course of six "Museum Addresses."

REPORTS.

Fulham (2 branches), 16th report, 1903-04. Stock 21,750 volumes: borrowers 5,542; volumes issued 252,365 (lending 233,267, reference 19,098), daily average 657. This report covers the period from 1st January, 1903, to 31st March, 1904. The library is being re-arranged according to systematic classification. A catalogue of fiction has been issued. "The public appreciation of the methods adopted at the South Branch Library, namely, the admission of readers to the book-shelves for the direct selection of their books, causes increased regret that it is at present impossible to adopt them in the Central Library."

Port Elizabeth, report for half-year ending June, 1904. Subscribers 608; volumes issued 32,833 (exclusive of reference issue), last half-year 16,670; daily average 222. The work of cataloguing, classifying, and re-arranging the library is now well in hand. A show case has been put in the entrance hall, and exhibitions of books arranged.

St. Bride Foundation Institute, 9th report, 1903-4. Stock 11,534 volumes; borrowers 2,316; volumes issued 78,892. The fiction percentage has dropped $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. during the year. A supplementary catalogue of the books added during 1900-4 has been published. From the Institute has also come a "Prospectus of Institute and Syllabus of Printing Classes, 1904-5."

St. Helens (3 branches), 26th report, 1903-4. Stock 36,899 volumes; volumes issued 191,040 last year 184,606. Dr. Carnegie has given £9,000 for three branches, on the usual conditions. Two sites have been presented, and the plans for the buildings are under consideration. An arrangement has been made to publish in the *St. Helens Reporter*, from time to time, lists of the additions to the Central Library. These lists are afterwards reprinted in leaflet form, and distributed free to borrowers.

Stockport, 1903-4. Stock 23,157 volumes; borrowers 4,058; volumes issued 217,408 (lending 213,446, reference 3,962). This has been the most successful year since the opening in 1875. The interior arrangements are unsuitable for the work to be done, and hamper the growth of the library. The system of lighting has been altered. A catalogue has been published, and it has been decided to issue extra non-fiction tickets.



LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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[Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.]

THE Public Libraries Committee of the Borough of **Islington** have created a very important precedent, which is bound to have far-reaching consequences, by advertising for a librarian who "must have had at least seven years' experience in the management of libraries in which systematic classification is employed." This is the first time we have ever seen such a requirement demanded for a librarianship, and there can be no doubt that, if it is strictly enforced, the committee will be certain to secure an officer far ahead of his competitors in point of technical equipment and knowledge. It is unquestionable that the absence of exact classification in so many English libraries has been the main reason why they have been so often assailed for inefficiency and crude methods. How can a librarian, whose stock is arranged as a series of broad divisions, in which the books are numbered in order of accession only, be expected to know what the library contains on any subject? Or how, without exact classification, can he ever hope to obtain an idea of subject relationships and the divisions of human knowledge sufficient to qualify him to direct the reading and studies of the public? The resolution of Islington to have only a skilled librarian to organize its system of libraries is a wise one, and it cannot be too strongly impressed upon other library authorities about to establish libraries that they cannot do better than follow such a valuable example.

ON November 23rd, the Borough Council of **St. Pancras** adopted the Public Libraries Acts by a large majority. The population is 235,284, and a 1d. rate will produce about £7,200. The only Metropolitan boroughs now left to adopt the Libraries Acts are Paddington, Marylebone, Bethnal Green, and the St. Luke division of Finsbury. There

are now five Metropolitan libraries awaiting organization—Greenwich, Deptford, Hackney, Islington, and St. Pancras.

THE foundation-stone of the new Carnegie Library at **Harrogate** was laid, on October 17th, by the Mayor, Alderman Horace Milling.

THE new Public Library at Kinning Park, **Glasgow**, was opened on October 25th, by Provost M'Millan. (Carnegie, £5,000.)

THE tender has been accepted for building the new Carnegie Library at **Salisbury**, at a cost of £4,205.

MR. E. W. **Green**, Sub-librarian of Yarmouth, has been selected for the post of librarian to the St. Albans Public Library.

THE Carnegie Library at **Maidenhead** was opened on October 27th, by Mr. W. H. Grenfell, M.P. The "open access" is in operation in the lending department.

ON Thursday, October 27th, the staff of the Stepney Borough Libraries met at the St. George's Library, Cable Street, for the purpose of presenting to Mr. E. H. **Parsons**, First Assistant Librarian (St. George's), a token of their goodwill on the occasion of his departure to take up office as one of Glasgow's branch librarians. The gift took the form of a handsome smoking-cabinet in pollard oak, with silver fittings, the outcome of subscriptions from the whole of Stepney's libraries staff.

DR. CARNEGIE has offered £1,800 to **Leyland** for a Public Library.

DR. CARNEGIE's offer to **Burtonisland** has been increased from £2,500 to £3,500.

DR. CARNEGIE has offered £20,000 to **Birkenhead** for the extension of the Public Library.

THE Public Library at **West Calder** was opened on November 24th by Lord Rosebery. The library was erected at a cost of £2,500. The architect was Mr. William Baillie, Glasgow.

EVERY library is more or less troubled with the "**dust demon**," and as we have had several enquiries concerning dust allayers, it is interesting to state that these preparations have given most satisfactory results at H.M. Patent Office Library, Croydon, Reading, Kingston-on-Thames, and many other libraries. They are specially prepared, odourless, hygienic fluids, which are very simply applied to all kinds of wood flooring, linoleum, cork matting, and Mosaic tile paving. They absorb and fix the dust—thus purifying the atmosphere. One application about every two months is required, but in some cases the preparation has lasted much longer. Time and labour is also saved, as no scrubbing or damping of floors is needed where these allayers are used, only occasional sweeping with a hard broom, when the dust rolls in front in a dark mass, and is not re-distributed; consequently books, fixtures, &c., seldom requiring dusting or cleaning.

MR. F. E. **Cooper**, senior assistant at Wimbledon, has been appointed sub-librarian at Hounslow.

THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

SCIENCE AND ART.

Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians. Edited by J. A. Fuller Maitland. In 5 volumes. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1904. 8°, 9", pp. xii + 800, *Illust.* Price 21s. net.

An encyclopædia of musical terms, historical occurrences in music, biographies of composers, instrumentalists, vocalists, and other musicians, with notices of musical forms, instruments, and musical technology generally.

The first volume of this new edition of "Grove's Dictionary," now before us, is a great improvement on the original work in many respects, and as it incorporates all the Appendix matter, with abundance of new facts, in one alphabet, it will be found of immense value in Public Libraries. The biographical material has been corrected and extended by Mr. Maitland and his associates to a very considerable extent; and the information first printed in the "*Dictionary of National Biography*" and other more recent works has been laid under contribution. In the preface it is pointed out that it is needless to enlarge the scope of such a general work by including minor musicians, especially as regards British composers and performers, who have all been fully dealt with in the *British Musical Biography* of Messrs. J. D. Brown and S. S. Stratton. In the historical and technical articles the same careful revision has been employed, with the result that there is now a musical reference work in English, equal in value and completeness to any of the German books of a similar scope.

Stoeving (Paul). *The Story of the violin.* London: Walter Scott Publishing Co., Ltd., 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. xxviii. + 324, *illust., Bibliography.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

Traces the evolution of the modern violin from the earliest forms, through the viol family to the present form, with notices of great violin makers, violin players, and composers.

An interesting volume in the "Music Story Series," edited by F. J. Crowest, full of useful information and pictorial records, but rather weakened in effect by the somewhat stilted and hyper-poetical style of the author.

Leland (Charles Godfrey). The alternative sex, or the female intellect in man, and the masculine in woman. London: Phillip Wellby, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 134. Price 3s. 6d.

An argument to prove that sex differences, occurring in man and woman, account for many of the psychological phenomena, such as imagination in all its degrees.

Selous (Edmund). The Romance of the animal world. Interesting descriptions of the strange and curious in natural history. London: Seeley & Co., Ltd., 1905 [1904], 8°, 7½", pp. 330, *illust.* Price 5s. [NO INDEX.]

Chapters on animal instinct, habits, protective resemblances, warfare, hunting and other aspects of animal life in all its forms.

An interesting series of sketches of popular natural history, in which considerable prominence is given to the predatory habits of all kinds of animals. A useful addition to the juvenile and popular science sections of Public Libraries.

Williams (Archibald). The Romance of modern locomotion, containing interesting descriptions (in non-technical language) of the rise and development of the railroad systems in all parts of the world. London: C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. 368, *illust.* Price 5s. [NO INDEX.]

Notices of various great railway systems and the different types of locomotive engines employed, with details of working on mountains, in snow; signals, brakes, expresses, electric railways, &c.

Williamson (George C.) How to identify portrait miniatures. With chapters on how to paint miniatures, by Alyn Williams. London: George Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 8½", pp. xix. + 126, *plates*. Price 5s. net.

An account of the paintings of Holbein and of many succeeding artists of miniature, including Hilliard, Hoskins, the Coopers, Cosway and others. Hints on identification, collecting and care of miniatures. Photo-process reproductions of celebrated paintings, and instructions on painting miniatures. Three pages of bibliography.

Dr. Williamson has given a book of much value to the collector, while those hardly able to claim the title will find something to give an added value to any little examples which may have come to them. The introductory remarks are to the point, and the charming illustrations appeal to all lovers of the beautiful in art.

SOCIAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

Bax (Ernest Belfort). A Handbook of the history of philosophy, for the use of students. 3rd ed., revised. London: George Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. x. + 436. Price 5s.

History of Oriental, Greek, mediæval and modern philosophy, from the earliest times to Herbert Spencer.

A third edition of a concise and accurate history of philosophical systems, forming part of Bohn's Philosophical Library.

Norton-Kyshe (James Wm.) The Dictionary of legal quotations ; or selected dicta of English chancellors and judges from the earliest periods to the present time. Extracted mainly from reported decisions, and embracing many epigrams and quaint sayings. London : Sweet and Maxwell, 1904. 8°, 8½", pp. xxii. + 344. Price 10s. 6d.

An alphabetical series of dicta, maxims and sayings on legal and moral questions delivered by judges, and covering such subjects as Administration of justice, Chancery, Character, Contempt of Court, Criminal justice, Fraud, Judicial decisions, Jury, Politics, Property, Tort, Witnesses, &c

A useful book to have on the shelves of a general library, as it possesses literary as well as legal interest.

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY.

Salter (W. H.) A Primer of general history. Part 1 : Ancient history. London : Horace Marshall & Son, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. xii. + 256, *illustr., maps*. Price 2s. 6d.

Brief account of ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome, with special chapters on the Greek-Persian wars, the Peloponnesian war, Macedonia, Carthage, and Greek and Roman culture. There is a chronology, B.C. 4000 to A.D. 410, and a series of maps.

Balley (E. J.) Illustrative history. British and old English period. London : Horace Marshall & Son, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. xii. + 284, *illustr.* Price 2s. [No INDEX.]

History of the Kelts, early Britons, Druids, Roman Britain, early Christianity. Normans, extracted from the works of various ancient and modern authors, and illustrated by means of archæological remains, ornaments, utensils, architecture, &c.

Frazer (N. L.) Illustrative history. Tudor period. London : Horace Marshall & Son, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. xii. + 272, *illustr.* Price 2s. [No INDEX.]

Extracts from various historians illustrating the principal events of the Tudor period [1485-1603], with descriptions of society, customs, occurrences, &c.

These illustrative histories are exceedingly useful for teaching purposes, and being compiled largely from contemporary writers, possess all the flavour of their periods, and make welcome reading for all kinds of readers. The extracts and comments are made with care, but why does Mr. Frazer give "Lord Bacon" as an authority?

Compton (Herbert). Indian life in town and country. London : George Newnes, Ltd. [1904.] 8°, 7", pp. viii. + 204, *illustr.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

An account of native Indian life and Anglo-Indian life as it is at the present day in India.

The first of a new series of books on "Our Empire," a companion set to the well-known series named "Our Neighbours." Mr. Compton has produced a most readable and well-informed little book, and his description of the Hindu child marriages will evoke the sympathy of every reader, and perhaps lead to some form of redressing a serious abuse of custom.

Smith (Worthington G.) *Dunstable: the Downs and the District.* London: The Homeland Association, Ltd., 1904. 8°, 7½", pp.

134, with frontispiece and numerous illustrations. Price 1s. and 2s.

A detailed account of the town and the neighbourhood from an antiquarian and modern point of view, intended as a handbook for visitors.

No one familiar with Mr. Worthington Smith's writings can be in doubt as to the nature and quality of the contents of this modest tribute to the interest of the town he loves so well. After a brief, business-like introduction, he soon plunges into the ever-attractive subject of early man, and his traces in and around Dunstable. The story of mediæval days is well told, and as fully as may be in small space, while the illustrations of buildings ancient and modern add to interest of the book. Both as to the town and many neighbouring places Mr. Worthington Smith has exercised his descriptive power sufficiently to make this a model handbook.

BIOGRAPHY.

Langridge (Irene). *William Blake, a study of his life and art work.*

London: George Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 9", pp. xii. + 198, *illust., ports.* Price 10s. 6d. net.

Life of William Blake (1757-1827), English artist and poet, with numerous reproductions of his pictures and decorated pages from his poems.

A valuable epitome of the life and works of this great mystic, based upon the works of Gilchrist, Scott, Cunningham and others, but extremely useful as combining in a handy and handsome form the chief facts of Blake's artistic and literary life, with an abundant series of examples of his designs.

Pepys (Samuel). *Diary.* Transcribed by the late Rev. Mynors Bright, M.A., from the shorthand manuscript in the Pepysian Library, Magdalene College, Cambridge. Edited, with additions by Henry B. Wheatley. London: George Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 7½", vols. 1 and 2, *ports.* Price 5s. net each.

A cheap re-issue, to be in eight volumes, of Mr. Wheatley's edition of the famous diary which was originally published in 1893-99 in ten volumes at a cost of £5 5s. The present edition will be found an admirable substitute for the larger one by those libraries which do not already possess it.

Gray (Thomas). *Letters.* Edited by Duncan C. Tovey. Vol. 2.

London: George Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 7½". Price 3s. 6d.

The second volume of this addition to Bohn's Standard Library, which will be completed with the appearance of the third volume.

Bell's Miniature Series of Great Writers. London: George Bell & Sons, 1904.

Tuckwell (W.) *Chaucer.* 1904. 8°, 6", pp. 96, *ports, bibliography.*

Garnett (Richard). *Coleridge.* 1904. 8°, 6", pp. 112, *ports., bibliography.*

Two useful additions to this pretty little pocket series of biographies of great authors, containing most of the facts required by the ordinary student or general reader.

LITERATURE AND POETRY.

Robertson (John M.), *ed.* Courses of study. (Issued for the Rationalist Press Association, Limited.) London: Watts & Co., 1904. 8°, 8", pp. viii. + 516. Price 8s. 6d.

A classified list of subjects of study, with the best books in each described and annotated. All main classes of study included, save Fiction, Poetry, Drama and Applied Science. Arranged in a series beginning with Anthropology, Mythology and Religious Beliefs, and proceeding through Philosophy, History, Politics and Sociology to Fine Arts, Philology, Mathematics and the Natural Sciences. Has author and subject indexes.

This is an important contribution to the literature of book selection and aids to systematic reading, which will be found of great service to library authorities engaged in the task of stocking new libraries. Its value to special students will also be great, although the intrusion of an excess of critical matter, and the numerous philosophical, sociological and religious opinions of its author, considerably detract from its practical utility. It only tends to prejudice a student against a special book when it is introduced to notice with a contemptuous or hyper-critical tag. If a compiler of courses of reading dislikes a book, or thinks it likely to do harm, why include it? Or, if a book is tame and commonplace, why put it in for the mere purpose of making it a cock-shy against which the wit of the author can be levelled? The absence of a section on imaginative literature will be felt by most users, but on the whole Mr. Robertson has produced a work of great value, for which he deserves the thanks of every book selector. We are pleased to notice that he has avoided the absurd practice of some compilers of select reading-lists, of publishing prices which are continually changing, and therefore comparatively valueless. In a large and comprehensive work of this kind omissions are certain to be frequent, and we have noticed a number, but in a second edition these will doubtless be repaired.

Meiklejohn (J. M. D.) English literature. A new history and survey from Saxon times to the death of Tennyson. London: Meiklejohn & Holden, 1904. 8°, 8½", pp. viii. + 650. Price 6s.

A useful general manual for teaching purposes, by the late Professor Meiklejohn, very clearly expressed, with illustrative extracts and chronological tables showing the relation between the great authors and the history and literature of their times. Like most other histories of English literature, this one is non-bibliographical, being concerned more with biography and criticism than with the material aspect of books, which is a great drawback to exact study and proper appreciation of editions.

Canning (Albert S. G.) Literary influence in British history, a historical sketch. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1904. 8°, 8½", pp. xii. + 202. Price 7s. 6d. net. [NO INDEX.]

A survey of English literature from early to recent times, tracing the influence of great writers on contemporary thought, politics and later history.

An exceedingly useful epitome of facts, and lucid exposition of a subject which has not been sufficiently studied in this country.

While the influence of historical events on literary productions has been treated of on many occasions, very little has been done in the way of showing the enormous effect which literature has had upon the course of current history.

Hazlitt (W. C.) *Gleanings in old garden literature*. London: Elliot Stock, 1904. 8°, 6½", pp. vii. + 263, *bibliography*. Price 1s. 6d. net. Bibliographical chapters on the Elizabethan, French, and Dutch schools of gardening, the various kinds of gardens, Bacon as a gardener, and individual flowers. Has an appendix containing an account of gardens near London in 1691. A volume of the popular edition of The Book-Lover's Library.

Emerson (Ralph Waldo). *Works*. Vol. 2. London: George Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 6½", pp. x. + 416. [The York Library.] Price 2s. net.
English Traits. 1856.
The Conduct of life. 1860.
Nature. 1836.

Continuation of this handsome little edition of Emerson, edited by Mr. George Sampson.

Scott (Sir Walter). *Romantic poems*. London: T. Nelson & Sons, 1905 [1904]. 8°, 6½", pp. xxvi. + 934, *illustr.* Price 2s. 6d. net. Lay of the last minstrel; Marmion; The Lady of the lake; Vision of Don Roderick; Rokeby; Bridal of Triermain; Lord of the Isles. Notes and memoir of Scott.

A neat and handy pocket edition of the best and longest of Scott's poetical works in the New Century Library.

Duff (Sir Mountstuart E. Grant), *ed.* *Gems from the Victorian Anthology*. London: Swan, Sonnenschein & Co., Ltd., 1904. 8°, 6", pp. xii. + 394. Price 2s. 6d. [No INDEX.]

An anthology of poems and songs from the works of English poets who flourished in the reign of Queen Victoria. Selected from a larger work published in 1902.

Chaucer (Geoffrey) *The Prologue to the Canterbury Tales*. Edited by C. T. Onions, M.A. (Carmelite Classics). London: Horace Marshall & Son, 1904. 8°, 6", pp. 48, *bibliography, glossary*, Price 6d.

Milton (John) *Comus*. Edited by C. T. Onions, M.A. (Carmelite Classics). London: Horace Marshall & Son, 1904. 8°, 6". pp. 64, *bibliography*. Price 6d.

A very handy edition of these classics. They are intended primarily for the use of schools, and notes are reduced to a minimum. Where quotations in foreign languages occur, the standard English translation is supplied. A series of questions on the text is appended to each.

FICTION AND JUVENILE BOOKS.

Burney (Fanny, *Frances Burney, Madame d'Arbley*). *Cecilia, or memoirs of an heiress*. London: George Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 6½", 2 vols. Price 4s. net.

Reprint of an English novel of society life, originally issued in 1782, and now edited with a preface and notes by Annie Raine Ellis.

An interesting addition to the York Library, giving in a convenient and dainty form an edition of a celebrated novel, which could not be obtained in any kind of suitable edition a few years ago. Librarians are indebted to Messrs. Bell for reprinting so many standard books which have been allowed to go out of print.

Crockett (S. R.) Red Cap tales, stolen from the treasure chest of the Wizard of the North. London: Adam and Charles Black, 1904. 8°, 8½, pp. xii. + 414, *col. illust.* Price 6s.

Tales and episodes re-told for children, from Scott's "Waverley," "Guy Mannering," "Rob Roy," and "The Antiquary."

The English-speaking races are divisible into two great classes—those who can read Scott's novels in their youth, and those on whom the spell of the master only descends in middle age. The former are generally persons of intellect and ability; the latter are somewhat less alert, but have the glorious compensation of reading for the first time in later life a series of romances which are perhaps best appreciated in the freshness of youth. As an introduction to a novelist whom many children find rather forbidding at first, Mr. Crockett's capital selection of re-tellings may be warmly commended. Every library should have a copy or two in its juvenile department.

Andersen (Hans Christian). Fairy tales. London: Wm. Collins, Sons & Co., Ltd. [1904.] 8°, 7¾", pp. 416, *col. illust.* Price 5s.

Grimm (Jakob and Wilhelm). Fairy tales. London: Wm. Collins, Sons & Co., Ltd. [1904.] 8°, 7¾", pp. 448, *col. illust.* Price 5s.

Two excellent editions of these famous nursery classics, clearly printed, well selected, and provided with coloured illustrations. Suitable in every way for household or library use.

Crouch (A. T. Quiller-) The red adventure book: a collection of stirring scenes and moving accidents from the world of adventure. London: Cassell & Co., Ltd. [1904] 4°, 10¼", pp. viii. + 392, *col. illust.* Price 5s.

A collection of narratives of actual happenings on land and sea. Races for life, the charge of the light brigade, stories of fishing fleets, merchantmen, and the navy, hunting escapes, notable duels, robberies, mountaineering and balloon-
ing adventures, escapes from prison, tales of the Victoria Cross—all these and many more are represented. It is well printed and well illustrated, and forms an almost ideal book for boys and girls.

Ninet (Marguerite) Deutsche Sagen. London: Horace Marshall & Son, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. vii + 163, *illust.* Price 1s. 6d.

German folk-lore tales intended for use in English schools.



MR. KIPLING'S IDEAS FOR A SCHOOL LIBRARY.

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MRS. ORD MARSHALL is the Secretary of the League of the Empire, whose object it is to promote correspondence between schools of corresponding grades all over the Empire. Some little time ago she received a letter from the head boy of one of our public schools in which he asked for the names of the best books for a school library to stimulate interest in Imperial matters. Mrs. Ord wrote to several well-known people, including Mr. Kipling, for lists of such books. Mr. Kipling's list was published in October in the little "Journal" of the League. These are the books which, in his opinion, "may be useful to boys who are interested in anything outside the limits of their immediate surroundings" :—

Most of Parkman's works, notably Montcalm and Wolfe, The Old Régime in Canada, and The Oregon Trail.

The whole of Marryat, including Mons. Violet, The Settlers in Canada.

Herman Melville's White Jacket and Moby Dick, specially Moby Dick.

Keene's Three Years of a Wanderer's Life.

Shipp's Memoirs (reprinted).

Hakluyt's Voyages.

Nature and Sport in South Africa, by Bryden.

Annals of Rural Bengal, by W. W. Hunter.

Ross's Voyages.

O. Trevelyan's Competition Wallah.

Reminiscences of an Irish R.M.

Mitford's Tales of Old Japan.

E. J. Glave's Savage Africa.

Livingstone's Travels.

Mungo Park's Travels.

Hudson's Idle Days in Patagonia.

Story of an African Farm.

Any of the Log books of the Log Series issued by the Westminster Press. (These are records of battleships and cruisers.)

Robinson's British Fleet.

A Gun Room Ditty Box, by G. S. Bowles.

A Stretch off the Land, by G. S. Bowles.

Our Sea Marks, by Edwards.

Dana's Two Years Before the Mast.

The Cruise of the Midge.

Tom Cringle's Log.

All the Rulers of India Series.

European Military Adventures of Hindostan.

Hakdyad Abdullah.

Arnold's Light of Asia.

A lengthy and exceedingly interesting paper on "Yorkshire as seen by the older topographers" was read by the President, and was discussed by Mr. Baker Hudson (Middlesbrough) and Councillor Holmes (Goole). It was intimated that the paper would in all probability be issued in printed form.

Mr. H. E. Johnston (Gateshead), the hon. secretary, contributed a paper on "What proportion of the library income are committees justified in expending on newspapers?" He thought this was a matter they as librarians would hear a great deal more of in the near future. His main contention was that library authorities were not justified in providing newsrooms as, having regard to their outlay, they were not used to any appreciable extent by the ratepayers or those who read for information, but rather by those who simply wanted to read the papers as a pastime or amusement. It was to be regretted that the word "newspapers" was ever inserted in the Public Libraries Acts, because it was becoming clearer every day that their supply was a drain on the resources of library committees, both by their cost and by the space required for their display. The number of undesirable characters who frequented the public newsroom was one of the features that even the "Verminous Persons Act" failed to afford adequate means to deal with, open-air treatment being the first idea that occurred to one as of immediate importance. Many librarians would, he thought, abolish newspapers entirely within their library *if they had the option*; but short of that the blacking-out of betting news would rid the newsroom of a class who lived in an atmosphere of unrealized fortune and something else more tangible, and who were devoid of advantage either to the community or themselves. It was useless saying that such a condition of things was caused through lack of oversight; the expulsion of the loafer question was an extremely difficult one to deal with, and was moreover one which called for the most careful discretion and tact on the part of the librarian or attendant. The writer maintained that the provision of daily papers was a needless tax upon both income and accommodation, thereby curtailing opportunity for usefulness in a double sense.

Mr. Lawton (Hull), who was unavoidably prevented from attending the meeting, sent the result of his recent enquiries ~~re~~ the utility of newsrooms, as also remarks on their management generally. Mr. Lawton stated that circulars were sent to every Public Library in the United Kingdom, and 206 replies were received. The returns showed that of that number 151 declared in favour of newsrooms and 49 against, whilst 6 were doubtful. It seemed from the character of the replies that, whilst there was a certain amount of opposition to newsrooms, they were fulfilling a useful service, if not of a very high order; but his opinion was that the gist of the whole question was—at what point should a librarian draw the border line where a person *was* or *was not* in a fit condition to enter a public room and associate with his fellow-men? The solving of this problem would, he thought, put an end to all complaints on the score of abuse of newsrooms.

Councillor Robinson (Darlington) said he had not seen much of the undesirable element in Darlington reading room ; if newsrooms were abolished their libraries would be deprived of a great deal of their usefulness. The President remarked that in Bradford their trouble was with the dirty loafer ; he thought they would find a solution of the question in adequate supervision. Messrs. J. W. C. Purves, B. R. Hill, and G. W. Byers also took part in the discussion. Owing to the time being limited, as also the members expressing a strong desire that the subject should be further dealt with, it was agreed that the discussion be resumed at next meeting.

The business meeting then terminated and a visit was made to the works of the North of England School Furnishing Co., the visitors returning to the Temperance Institute and partaking of tea at the invitation of the Mayor and Councillor Wilson. Subsequently, they were shown over the Technical College by Principal Hogg, after which a Sinoking Concert was held at the Central Hall, where an excellent programme of music was rendered, and which had been arranged by Mr. Arrowsmith.

The proceedings closed with hearty votes of thanks to all those who had contributed to the success of the gathering.

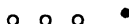
THE PSEUDONYMS.

THE last meeting of the Pseudonyms was held at a Café in the neighbourhood of Hanover Square, on the usual date, when a number of members attended to hold an inquisition upon the doings of the Delegate in the United States. The Bachelor of the Albany was voted to the chair, and after the usual repast had been despatched, commencing with sardines, potato salad and olives, and concluding with stale grapes and cognac, the Delegate was called upon to give an account of his stewardship. He thereupon gave a circumstantial and plausible report of a reputed tour in the United States, including some realistic details of a £3 steerage passage across the Atlantic, and a number of convincing notes of a similar kind. He stated his positive belief that had Mr. Z. seen him prostrate in a deck chair, three days out from Queenstown, he would not only have withdrawn his Newcastle circular, but have rubbed noses with the Delegate, and administered, at his own expense, a powerful dose of *aquæ vitæ* and H₂O. A number of carefully prepared and occasionally humorous notes followed, on the libraries and the lady librarians of New York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Chicago, Cleveland, Buffalo, Albany, Boston, Providence and Newark, and various articles were produced as evidence of the reality of the pilgrimage. The exhibition was somewhat spoiled by the showman's assumption of a strong nasal twang. The Bachelor of the Albany having called for comments, the Christian arose and expressed his

AN innocent *suggestio falsi* occurs to mind. Some time in the early sixties was published a religious text-book, containing a selection of biblical and other matter, entitled "Twigs for nests." At the Exhibition held in Paris in 1867 was a fine showcase of English works on *Agriculture and Natural History*, and therein, prominently displayed, was a copy of "Twigs for nests"!



LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.



THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE first meeting of the session 1904-5 was held at 20, Hanover Square, on Monday, November 21st, when about twenty-five members assembled to hear a paper by Cyril Davenport, of the British Museum, on "English books at the St. Louis Exhibition, 1904." Mr. C. T. Davis (Wandsworth) was called to the chair, and Mr. Davenport's paper was discussed by Messrs. Kettle, Doubleday, Jast, Lister (Hove), Savage, Davis, Inkster and others. The subject of the paper was a racy sketch of the proceedings of an international jury at St. Louis, in the course of which Mr. Davenport gave some amusing sidelights on the doings of exhibition juries. The chief point of the paper was its warning against certain evils of modern book-production—bad paper, poor binding, tawdry design, and the dangers of large editions and cheap methods.

At next meeting, on December 19th, Mr. Jast will give some of his impressions of American Libraries.

LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE second meeting of the session was held at the St. Bride Institute, Bride Lane, E.C., on Wednesday, Nov. 9th, when Mr. E. A. Savage, Librarian of Bromley, Kent, read a paper on "Book Selection: an argument and a method." There was a good number of members present.

Mr. Savage dealt with the subject of selecting books to augment a library already in working, rather than with the selection for a library in course of formation.

It was his opinion that a minute classification, such as Cutter or Dewey, was of great assistance to the librarian in his selection of books. By means of such a classification he was able to see readily the subjects which were not adequately represented, and to take the necessary steps to remedy the deficiencies. The outlook of the book selector should be wide. He should not confine himself to two or three literary papers which, though helpful, do not cover the whole field. The reviews

looked through periodically should be many and various, and the specialised journals (scientific, musical, &c.) should on no account be omitted. It was advisable to have certain marks to denote books that *might be purchased* if funds allowed, those that were *desirable*, and those that were *very desirable*. The proportion of books in various subjects differed in various localities, but the proportion of fiction should not be more than fifteen or twenty per cent. In many cases popular works (fiction or non-fiction) could be duplicated with profit, and with regard to fiction it was far preferable to purchase ten copies of a good novel rather than ten indifferent new ones. There was a craze in the present day for expensive works, whether there was a demand for them or no, the purchase of which in many cases crippled the resources of the book fund. No book which only appealed to a few should be bought to the exclusion of others for which there was a greater demand. On no account should the selector pander to low taste; only those works which were edifying should find a place in the book-list.

There was an animated discussion, after which, on the motion of Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers, seconded by Mr. G. E. Roebuck, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Savage for his interesting and instructive paper.

H. T. C.



CORRESPONDENCE.

o o o

To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.

SIR,—It has frequently occurred to me, when scanning the selected list of new books recommended as being suitable for purchase, both in this paper and in the Library Association Record, and also the list of best books, selected and prepared for our Annual Conference; that it is a matter of regret that such lists should not be amalgamated and a complete classified catalogue kept of books thus selected.

I venture to suggest that this should be done by means of a card or sheaf catalogue to be kept at the library of our Association. It would form a valuable Reference Catalogue of modern best books, and in due course might be printed and published. It is now some years since the publication of Sonnenschein's *Best Books* and *Reader's Guide* and there is no adequate guide to the best books of the day. It would surely be within the province of the Library Association to provide such a guide for the future.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

KATE E. PIERCE.

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paper element is by no means so important as the name newsrooms would seem to imply, although its cost is out of all proportion to its value. The newspaper is only really valuable to a small section of the community—the unemployed—and there can be no doubt that its presence has tended more than anything else to vulgarize and cheapen the work of English Public Libraries in the eyes of ratepayers and every kind of candid observer. The value of such newspapers as the London halfpenny morning and evening budgets of unhealthy sensationalism, is infinitesimal, and the tone of many of the other newspapers is simply deplorable. They are false prophets of the future, prejudiced and inaccurate chroniclers of the present, and are so hastily and ignorantly compiled, that one marvels that any sensible person troubles to give them serious attention. As compared with the carefully-reasoned and deliberate opinions and records of the weekly, monthly and quarterly reviews their authority is contemptible, and I am surprised beyond measure that anyone of education should defend the intrusion of such partizan and unreliable media of scraps, into institutions which were undoubtedly intended by their founders to be mainly educational, and not centres for the dissemination of doubtful opinions and distorted facts. Practically every library in the Kingdom spends far too much on lavish provision of newspapers, and cripples its usefulness to a serious extent by employing the limited means it possesses in a wrong direction. Newsrooms are costly out of all proportion to their public value, and I rejoice that some authoritative criticism is behind the statement of Mr. Huntley. The remarks in Brown's *Manual*, the opinions expressed at the Newcastle meeting of the Library Association, and Mr. Morley's recent remarks, which seem to have been misunderstood, and their qualified nature missed, all tend to show that some kind of revision is necessary in this important department of library administration.

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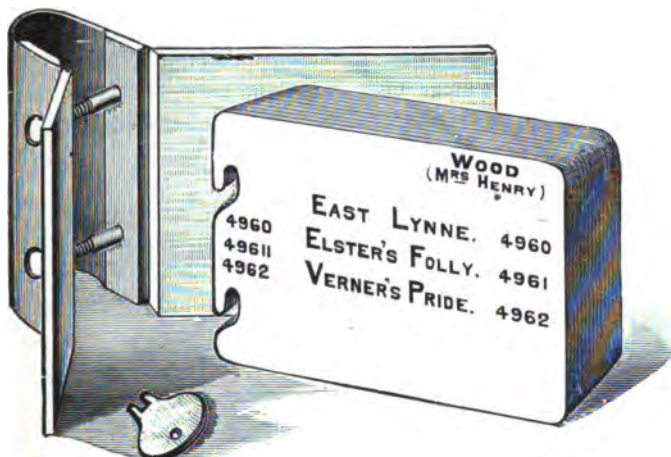
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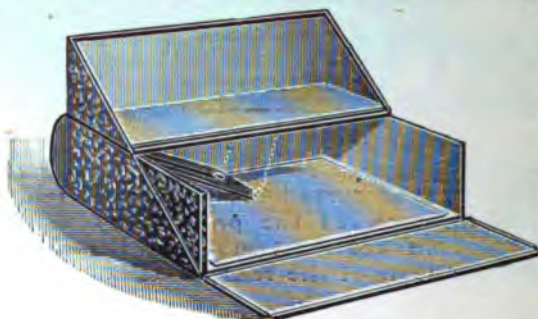
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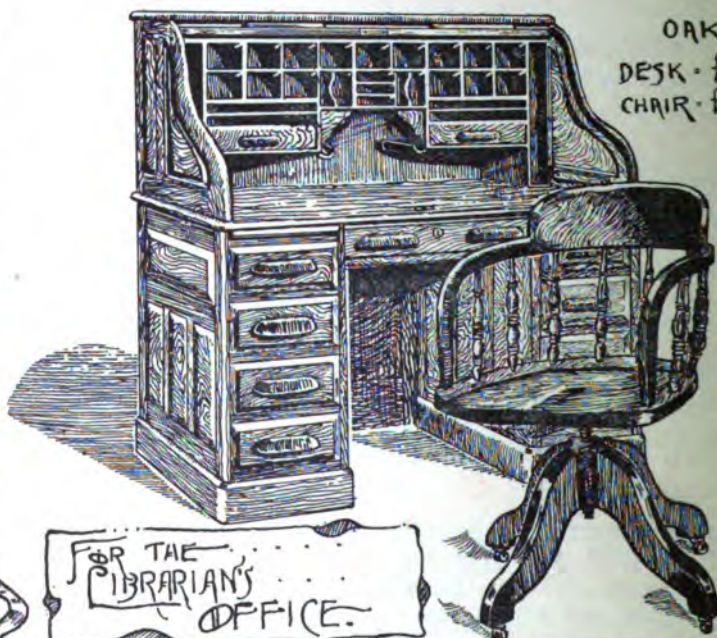
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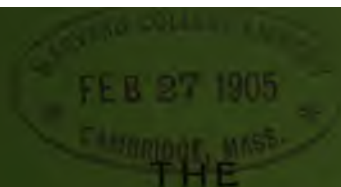
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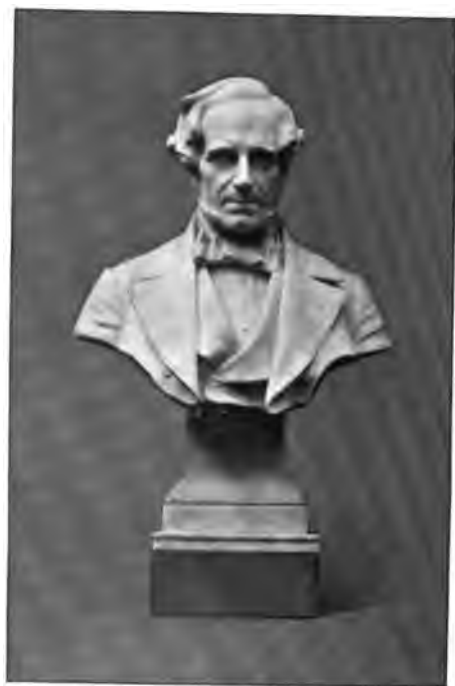
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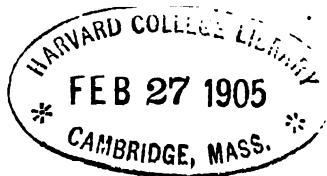
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WILLIAM EWART, M.P.

Born 1798. Died 1869.

**WILLIAM EWART, M.P.**

o o o

IN presenting our readers with an illustration of the bust of this distinguished philanthropist, we may recall a few particulars of his life.

William Ewart was born near Liverpool in 1798. After being educated at Eton, he passed to Christchurch, Oxford, where he took his B.A. in 1821.

After travelling abroad, he was called to the Bar in 1827, and in 1828 he became a member of Parliament, first for Bletchingley, then Liverpool, Wigan and the Dumfries Burghs, which last he represented for twenty-seven years, retiring in 1868, and dying in 1869.

His great work was in the first Public Libraries Act, from which so much has since grown for the benefit of mankind.

We are favoured with the following note of the proceedings, on December 16th, at the unveiling of the marble bust in the Public Library, Great Smith Street, presented to the Westminster City Council by Mr. J. Passmore Edwards :—

The Rev. F. Harcourt Hillersdon, the Chairman of the Library Committee, who presided, said that it was fitting that such a memorial of Mr. Ewart should be placed in the Great Smith Street Library, as this library was the first opened in the Metropolis under the Libraries Act of 1855. The Act was adopted by the old Westminster Parishes of St. Margaret and St. John in 1856, and the Library opened on 10th March, 1857, in premises on the other side of the street ; the present building being opened in 1893.

Mr. Passmore Edwards, in acknowledging the vote of thanks moved by Lord Cheylesmore, said that he had had many opportunities of co-operating and working with the late Mr. Ewart, and he was pleased with the capital likeness that the artist had produced.

The bust is the work of Mr. A. White, and was executed under the direction of Mr. Frampton, R.A.

**COMPARATIVE LIBRARY LAW.**

o o o

I.

ONE of the most familiar axioms which accompanies men through the earthly pilgrimage, from the dawn of their intelligence till darkness once more envelopes them, is the universal insistence on the power of knowledge. "Knowledge is Power" says the copy-book, the schoolmaster, the preacher, and even the man-in-the-street ;

Volume VII. No. 80. February, 1905

and there are also laws which insist upon the pursuit of knowledge being one of the chief duties of citizenship. To be "in the know" is considered a title to distinction among the non-intellectual vulgar, and on every side, and in every condition of human life, knowledge is worshipped as a kind of mysterious and dread power, second in importance only to the principle of life itself. In these circumstances, it may be assumed that there is considerable interest connected with the subject of knowledge, and that some weight should attach to this modest attempt to examine what is being done in the higher official world to recognize the claims of a power so universally acclaimed and approved.

Knowledge may be considered as existing only in two chief places—Memory and Books, and, as regards permanency of record, it may be assumed that only the written and printed word can be accepted as of lasting value. It follows, therefore, that books, whether inscribed, written or printed, form the sole permanent repository of the world's knowledge, and that, in consequence, they are the most valuable and important productions of the human mind. This may be illustrated in many ways. For instance,—if all the lawyers, doctors, betting-men, licensed victuallers, stock-brokers, kings, nobles and politicians in the world were drowned, there might be a little disorder for a while, but in a short time everything would be adjusted, and the world would wag on as usual. Now, if all the books were destroyed, and the press was completely suppressed for even one week, the world would have to face a calamity compared to which the loss of certain classes of men would be a mere bagatelle, and which would only be equalled in disastrous consequences by the withdrawal of the sun or the atmosphere from the earth. This is not a philosophical treatise, and no attempt can be made to explain why and how, certain classes of men, and forms of human industry, have usurped the leading places in the minds of men, to the exclusion of the much more important factor of recorded knowledge. Nevertheless, the fact remains, that books are often regarded as playthings, while vulgar politicians or fashionable sportsmen are allowed to fill the public eye and, perhaps, also the judicial records, to the exclusion of more important and lasting interests.

This complaint is not unreasonable, when it is considered how indifferent the various States of the world have been towards the preservation of knowledge as recorded in books. There are plenty of laws (preserved in books) for the regulation of books and libraries, and in recent times, at any rate in the United States, library legislation has bulked nearly as largely as statute-making in the interests of commercial trusts, or legislation devoted to patching-up the bad or effete laws of the past. But the general tendency of all legislation in regard to libraries is mean and cheese-paring in the extreme. The axiom "Knowledge is power" may make a phantom appearance somewhere during the course of these legislative efforts, but on every side is to be seen a frantic endeavour to have it on the cheap. "Let us encourage books, and reading, and learning"—say our law-makers, "but, for Heaven's sake,

keep down the rates, and let us spend as little treasure as possible!" All over the world may be witnessed the pitiful spectacle of legislation running riot on such appalling trivialities as the pattern of soldiers' tunic-buttons, the bolstering up of beer-shops, the marking of dogs' collars, or the branding of soap or sheep, while all the time knowledge, that sacred thing which it is theoretically the correct thing to worship and uphold, is neglected and starved. While legislators are fooling around with all kinds of petty amendments of laws for the protection of select trades, or the exploitation of other people's pockets in the interests of certain coteries or classes, it is being completely forgotten that armies, navies, law, church, commerce, and practically everything else which goes towards the structure of our complex modern life, would fall to pieces if books were suddenly withdrawn from use, and the whole record of human history and achievements rendered ineffective for consultation. This is the first point which it is necessary to make in connection with library legislation, as it shows, in very few words, the importance of the subject, and brings home clearly the absolute necessity for books in every department of life.

The general trend of library legislation throughout the world, so far as it has been possible to examine it, may be summed up as exhibiting a policy of grudge and limitation. No government has fully realized the enormous value of books and their importance to the public, the consequence being that, in all countries, no statutes are to be found save those of a purely permissive character. Each Legislature has elected to delegate its responsibility to some other authority, local or other, and in no single case, even in France, where the State acts as the central controlling power for most libraries, is there any attempt at effective governmental administration, coupled with liberal and adequate support. As this survey proceeds these facts will emerge more prominently, and it will be realized that most Governments have adopted a luke-warm attitude towards libraries and books, regardless of their value as repositories of the principal apparatus of knowledge and record.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

The various laws which have been made throughout the British Empire in connection with libraries and books, present an interesting study, and form a theme capable of very extended treatment. Perhaps the earliest example of State control of literature is to be found in the Proclamation or Ordinance of Henry VIII., in 1537, by which the clergy were instructed to provide a "book of the whole Bible to be set up in some convenient place within the church where the parishioners may the most commodiously resort to read it." The cost of providing these public Bibles was to be borne rateably by the parson and the parishioners, and thus a precedent was created for future legislation. Nearly all the chained bibles which were in this way supplied to churches, have disappeared, and the episode is only mentioned as a convenient starting place for this inquiry.

The central authorities at all times have favoured some species of exaction, and having exploited the poor parsons in the matter of public bibles, there is no doubt that publishers were considered fair game by several of the Licensers of Printing, encouraged as they were by the Government. At any rate, the *Sedition Act* of "14 Charles II., c. 33"—1662, is the first instance in this country of the Government deliberately taxing a small section of the community in the interests of knowledge—or, in other words, fostering literature or libraries in the cheapest possible manner. This act of 1662, which was continued till 1695, provided for three copies of every new book published in Britain being sent to the Company of Stationers, who had to distribute them as follows:—one copy to the Royal Library, and one each to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The main object of the regulation was, of course, to establish a kind of legalized press censorship. From this germ grew the modern Copyright Acts, beginning in 1709-10, and many times amended, and probably yet to be further amended. Now, under Copyright Acts in all countries, Governments have provided for a certain amount of preservation of knowledge, by making it compulsory for publishers (and incidentally authors) to deposit copies of all new books in certain selected libraries, there to be conserved for the use of nobody-in-particular. To many minds the exactions of the Copyright Laws are regarded as a species of State Brigandage, especially as no return or protection is afforded to publishers or authors. It has been asked why *all* inventors and producers are not taxed in a similar fashion, and why the State does not make regulations for the preservation of other things besides books. These are conundrums which cannot be answered here, and are simply stated in order to make it more evident that the care of central Governments for the preservation of knowledge is regulated, almost entirely, by considerations of cost. On the other side, it may be assumed that the victimized publishers (and incidentally, of course, authors) have their reward in the consciousness of doing more for the preservation of knowledge than any single government or any other section of the people. Returning to Queen Anne's *Copyright Act* of 1709, the main point to be noted is that Parliament resolved to do something bold on behalf of knowledge, and in the interests of certain libraries, by requiring *nine* free copies of every new book to be sent by the publisher to the Stationers' Company for distribution as follows:—

One copy to the			Royal Library	
"	"	"	University of Oxford	
"	"	"	"	" Cambridge
"	"	"	"	" Edinburgh
"	"	"	"	" Glasgow
"	"	"	"	" Aberdeen
"	"	"	"	" St. Andrews
"	"	"	Advocates' Library, Edinburgh	
"	"	"	Sion College, London.	

In this deal, Scotland came off remarkably well, and no doubt it would be considered one of the disastrous consequences of the Legisla-

tive Union some years earlier ! At any rate, this remained the law, ignoring various unimportant amendments, till 1801, when 41 *George III.*, c. 107 extended the Copyright Acts over the United Kingdom and increased the requisitioned free copies of new books from nine to *eleven*, by adding Trinity College and King's Inns Libraries, Dublin, to the privileged Institutions. Naturally rows and protests were plentiful. Parliamentary Commissions sat to adjust differences, and generally ended by affirming their belief in the justice of preserving Knowledge at the expense of a few hundred publishers and authors. In 1814, however, by 54 *George III.*, c. 156 the privileged libraries were required to send written demands for copies of the new books they wanted, and this would no doubt result in some measure of relief to the publishers of school primers and other cheap and unexciting works ! In 1835, the burden of presenting free copies of new books was considerably lessened by 5 and 6 *William IV.*, c. 110, which commuted the privilege for an annual subsidy as regards the following libraries :—

Edinburgh University	£575	per annum
Glasgow "	707	" "
Aberdeen "	320	" "
St. Andrews "	630	" "
King's Inns, Dublin	433	" "
Sion College, London	363	" "

Here, again, the Scot scored against the Sassenach, and these annual ransoms, or payments, from the consolidated funds of the Kingdom, may be regarded as the first real contributions of the State towards the preservation of knowledge ; if we except grants made to more strictly national institutions. The weak part of the bargain exists in the fact that, in relieving the oppressed Publishers, nothing was done to secure the public use of collections of books thus largely supported by the ratepayers. Without special introductions, payment of fees or other influences, no taxpayer may reckon upon a cordial reception at any of the six aforementioned libraries. Indeed, the probabilities are that his application for knowledge-hunting facilities, would be received with a frigidity in which no suggestion would appear of the handsome sums paid by the public towards the support of these libraries.

Leaving this aspect of the State's interest in the support of libraries, the more direct efforts of Parliament in the work of preserving knowledge may be considered. It has been shown that various royal libraries were enriched by means of a genial application of the Parliamentary screw, so that in course of time, such accumulations became large and valuable. For many years these collections remained the private property of the successive monarchs, but after the formation of the British Museum they became national property, and the privilege of receiving free copies of new books under Copyright Acts, went with them. But before this took place, Parliament had spent a little money in acquiring books, by passing the Act—12 and 13 *William III.*, 1700 —for preserving the Cottonian Library "for public use and advantage."

This was followed up by "5 Anne, c. 30, 1707," *An Act for the better securing of Her Majesty's purchase of Cotton House in Westminster*"; and all this work was consolidated by the important statute constituting the British Museum. This was promulgated as "26 George II., c. 22, 1753. *An Act for the purchase of the Museum or collection of Sir Hans Sloane, and of the Harleian Collection of Manuscripts, and for providing one general repository for the better reception and more convenient use of the said collections, and of the Cottonian Library, and of the additions thereto.*" This Act includes financial provisions for the raising of funds by means of a lottery! The British Museum has passed through many vicissitudes since 1753, and it has been enriched from time to time by accessions of all kinds of private collections, which were acquired under various special Acts of Parliament. It was not till 1807, however, that Parliamentary grants were made for the purchase of books, but in this year the system was commenced by the acquisition of the Lansdowne MSS., at the expense of the State. According to Edward Edwards' *Memoirs of Libraries*, Parliament contributed less than £500 a year to the British Museum during the first sixty years of its existence, for the acquisition of printed or other knowledge, a statement which, if true, confirms once more the contention that governments like to encourage learning with the least possible expenditure of money. Even now, the British Museum is maintained on a very parsimonious scale as compared with the Congressional Library at Washington, and it will never reach the highest standard of efficiency in administration, and ability to meet a much wider public demand, unless the annual appropriation is doubled.

The other libraries maintained by the State are chiefly of a departmental character, that is to say, they are costly collections of books on special subjects formed for the exclusive use of a few officials. To them the public have no right of access, and the books are, therefore, to a great extent, so much lumber. The large libraries of the India and Colonial Offices, the Admiralty, War Office, Foreign Office, and other Government departments, are of this very exclusive official nature, and their importance from the public point of view is consequently nil. But there are several other State-supported libraries which are more liberally and intelligently administered, such as those of the Patent Office, London, and the National Library of Ireland, Dublin, both establishments in which knowledge is collected and also dispensed. The only question which arises in connection with British State libraries is whether such institutions, supported entirely by the taxpayers, should not be open to the general public under such regulations as may be necessary. It is illogical, on the face of it, to restrict admission to the Art and Science Libraries at South Kensington to students who pay fees, while the Patent Office Library, an institution which stands in the same relationship to the public, and is a Government department, is open, without the slightest formality, to anyone who likes to use it. But it is useless pursuing the theme of the stupidity and general cussedness of British Government Officialdom, and the question of public rights in regard to State libraries of all kinds may be left to ripen in the

future. The important point is that knowledge is being stored in various special directions by the State, in a blundering, unsystematic kind of a way, and this may be regarded as compensation for other shortcomings.

(To be continued.)



WAS OMAR KHAYYĀM A LIBRARIAN?

By S. T. EWART.

o o o

THAT our profession knows nothing of its greatest men I am firmly convinced. And I am not alone in this conviction. On the contrary, many of the members of the Library Assistants' Association agree with me very heartily. I do not intend, however, to expatiate upon professional neglect—of the present day, at anyrate—but merely to bring forward the claim of a hitherto unrecognised pioneer of the Public Library movement. It is certainly remarkable that for so long a time Omar Khayyām has escaped notice, for not only did he forecast many of the latest library "inventions" and "developments," but he evidently had pretty strong opinions about them. By-the-way, before going any further, let me beg of those who may be offended at the aforesaid strong opinions to remember that "old Khayyām" was notoriously bibulous, and that they are probably but the effect of something still stronger. But to proceed. Omar was evidently a prophet of no mean order, for does not his reference to "the two-and-seventy jarring sects" accurately describe the present state of librarianship, when every individual library is run on the best possible lines—according to every individual chief—and nobody misses a chance of acting as showman to his own pet ideas? That Omar was also an inventor, and one who tried, unsuccessfully, to push his wares among his confrères, may be deduced from his lament—

"Indeed, the Idols I have loved so long
Have done my credit in this World much wrong."

If this isn't the wail of a disappointed inventor of commercial instincts, I don't know what it is.

Leaving generalities, let us see what he thought about some of the special phases of library work. It is a well known phenomenon in the evolution of a librarian that a period of enthusiasm precedes the attainment of librarianship. In passing, it may be remarked that this enthusiasm is usually left behind, with the paste-pot and punctuality of the lower orders, on reaching that coveted estate. However, bearing this phenomenon in mind, it is easily understood why at the monthly meetings of the Library Association, most of the work is done not by members but by the associates. Whether or not this work is productive of much result was evidently a matter of grave doubt in the mind of

Omar, for hear what he says on the subject :—

“ Myself, when young, did eagerly frequent
Doctor and Saint, and heard great argument
About it and about : but evermore
Came out by the same door where in I went.”

It is somewhat figurative, but the meaning is clear. Notwithstanding my previous assertion, all librarians do not lose all their enthusiasm, and this fact has not escaped the astronomer poet. After, no doubt, drawing a graphic mind-picture of some poor enthusiast with advanced ideas being appointed to control the literary destinies of Little-Bunkum-on-the-Mud, and imagining this enthusiast toiling for years without arousing the local populace to a sense of *their* duty, he breaks forth in his usual figurative way :—

“ When all the Temple is prepared within,
Why nods the drowsy Worshipper outside ? ”

There is infinite pathos in these lines, yet some cannot see it. I pointed out the story of the local enthusiast one day to a well-known librarian, and called his attention to the fact that such cases are by no means uncommon at the present time, and the reply I received was : “ Why doesn’t he buy more Corelli ? ”

Like most present-day librarians, Omar had to undergo the long drawn out agonies of an opening ceremony. Just as at the opening ceremonies of to-day some successful local cheesemonger, who knows as much about books and libraries as he does of Omar Khayyám, is selected to pour his prosy platitudes by the hour into the ears of the suffering multitude (who most likely want him to “ buck up and let us get at the spread ”) so in Omar’s day things must have been similar. He does not actually say so, but we can imagine the relief with which he hands over to the local big-wig

“ A key,
That shall unlock the Door he howls without.”

Would that Omar were alive to-day and still had the courage to put his opinions into print.

However, Omar was not always a librarian. Before he reached that position of delightful irresponsibility he must have been a borrower. If this were not so, how otherwise could he have given us that marvellous picture of an indicator :—

“ There was the Door to which I found no Key ;
There was the Veil through which I might not see.”

No description of the indicator, however long, has summed up that instrument of torture so accurately and clearly as these two lines. If no other portion of his writings had survived, these two lines would have sufficed to earn for him the respect of every librarian. Open access was Omar’s system, and we note his indignant line :—

“ They sneer at me for leaning all awry.”

“ They ” evidently refers to the indicator party—one of his “ two-and-seventy jarring sects ”—and his surprise at such a pitiful trumped-up argument is surely plain.

In view of the controversy regarding the utility of the newsroom, Omar's opinion is valuable, though he considers it from a different standpoint to the modern librarian :—

“ 'Tis but a Tent where takes his one day's rest.”

Who takes his “one day's rest”? The answer is obvious : the wanderer, the tramp, the loafer, the—but it is needless to mention the others. Omar thinks it is of some use if it serves as a tent for the tentless, but the modern librarian looks upon it as a reading-room not a retiring room ; and besides, the “one day's rest” has become an “every day's rest.”

Even Lord Rosebery's recent speech at West Calder has not altogether escaped “old Khayyám's” eye. It will be remembered that Lord Rosebery pointed out the need of someone to “act the part of the muezzin on the tower of the mosque, summoning faithful Mohammedans to prayer—“one who should raise his voice and recall the names of good books and good authors which stood in danger of being forgotten.” Well, Omar, gazing into the future tells us :—

“ A Muezzin from the Tower of Darkness cries.”

Quite amusin', isn't it? At present we can but conjecture what is meant by the “Tower of Darkness.” Somehow the British Museum persists in coming to mind, but even that institution does not seem inclined, at present, to take any part in such menial work as guiding the people.

Be that as it may, enough has been said to show that Omar Khayyám has a real claim to be considered one of the first of the great library thinkers whose traditions are so ably maintained to-day. In conclusion, let me appeal that, when the new Act is passed, and librarians are all rolling in wealth, a memorial may be erected worthy of our profession, and of Omar's great genius.



INDICATORS *v.* CARD CHARGING: THEIR COMPARATIVE COST.

By WILLIAM J. HARRIS, *Stroud Green Public Library, Hornsey.*

o o o

THE two most prominent questions that have been exciting the minds of librarians of Public Libraries during the past few years, have unquestionably been the Safeguarded Open-Access System and Close Classification. The one suggests at once the other, and each is more or less complementary, therefore, in speaking of one, the other is inferred, for, in application, they are almost synonymous.

The ideas of the younger school of librarians have enormously influenced and educated public, and professional opinion in certain

directions, and there is, consequently, a feverish haste in nearly all Public Libraries to throw open their reference departments to the general public, and secure thereby at least a semblance of public favour, and a share in the general approbation, professional and otherwise, which this liberal recognition of public rights always evokes. As I have said elsewhere, "what the public demands to-day the librarian must concede to-morrow," and, in the future, the question of policy or system will not be left entirely in the hands of the librarian, however capable he may be, but will be decided by the public or their representatives. The enlightened views of many library authorities, and the trouble they are now taking to investigate the true nature and educational value of the various systems of library management, are among the most interesting phenomena in the library practice of recent years.

The view may, therefore, be pretty safely accepted that "we believe the Safeguarded Open-Access System to be the system of the future," considering that this sentiment has been so frequently and fervently stated by numerous candidates for library appointments during the past few years.

With these preliminaries, I propose to discuss a convention which has arisen in British libraries, because its abolition or revision depends more or less upon a liberal measure of shelf access, and my endeavour will be to examine the question of Indicators *v.* Card Charging more from the economic standpoint than from that of policy or advantage.

In surveying the various systems of issuing books used in the libraries of the world, the fact very prominently intrudes itself that the Indicator method is, with but few exceptions, confined to British libraries. Why is it? The United States will have none of it. Our colonies have yet to be converted, and in other countries the device is simply a puzzling curiosity. My solution of the enigma is, that it has been largely a case of the blind leading the blind. The various Indicators have been adroitly advertised; their appeal has been strong to the lazy, old-time librarian; and their value has been so greatly boomed by such rule-of-thumb librarians, that until recent years they have been considered a prime necessity. British conservatism is doubtless responsible for further bolstering up the Indicator System and giving it a kind of fashionable vogue.

Library authorities are well-advised when they take the trouble to investigate the merits of every system of issuing books, before adopting the Indicator method, simply because it happens to be well-advertised. It is an expensive article to instal and also to remove, and when, with increasing years and increasing books it grows to ungovernable proportions, the difficulty of providing sufficient space for its expansion and manipulation is enormously increased. This difficulty most of the large indicator libraries are either experiencing, to their sorrow, or anticipating with dismay.

The main point, however, that I desire to raise, is the comparative cost of the Indicator, as this is, or should be, one of the chief factors in determining its installation in new buildings.

The cost of an Indicator is approximately £6 per 1000 numbers. In considering this question, however, the cost of the Indicator is, unfortunately, not the only item in the bill of costs. It takes 5-ft. of counter to carry effectively 4,000 Indicator numbers, and the cost of a good counter is about £2 per foot run. In addition to this, some little decoration in the form of a frame for the Indicator is usually considered necessary; in fact in many libraries I could mention, gorgeous frames have been erected, equalling in cost quite 50 % of the Indicator itself. I therefore arrive at these factors. To instal an Indicator for 20,000 volumes, allowing two 5-ft. service spaces for the exchange of books, it would cost approximately as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Cost of Indicators for 20,000 numbers @ £6 per 1000 numbers	120	0	0
„ Counter, 35-ft. long (minimum length) @ £2 per foot	70	0	0
„ Fitting Indicator in frame (plain finish) @ £1 per foot	25	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	215	0	0

The cost of a Card Charging System, similar to those used in Safeguarded Open-Access Libraries would be a maximum of 30s., per 1000 numbers. This includes all accessories as trays, guides, &c.

	£	s.	d.
Cost of Card Charging System for 20,000 @ 30s. per 1000 numbers	30	0	0
„ Counter (no fitting of system required) 24-ft. @ £2 per foot	48	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	78	0	0

Therefore, on a library of 20,000 volumes there is a net saving of £137, and this is a minimum estimate, and does not reckon Indicator accessories, of which there are many, such as trays for issues, date slides, blinds, indicator keys and various other contrivances. Were these considered in the estimate for an Indicator installation, the cost would be much in excess of the figures given above.

In view of these facts it is obvious that all library authorities should very seriously consider the question of issue methods and library policy before tying themselves to a system which is not only expensive, but which may have to be abandoned in a short time when its inconveniences are discovered. More particularly is to be deprecated the folly of library authorities in small places with limited means, spending money in the provision of an expensive and obstructive machine for the mere sake of recording a daily issue of 50 volumes! The presence of indicators in small libraries is one of the most extraordinary features of English library management, and emphasizes my

statement that it is merely a case of the blind leading the blind, or, just as likely, an example of that spirit of emulation which moves people to imitation of their neighbours. To sum up as regards the comparative economy of Indicators *versus* Card Charging, it appears plain that, if Open Shelves *plus* Card Charging are adopted, several very important savings are effected. First, as I have shown above, £137 is saved in the initial cost of furnishing. Second, this £137 may be regarded as an insurance against loss of books for over sixty years, because, if the annual loss is £2 (and very few safe guarded open access libraries lose as much), it follows that it will take sixty-eight years to work off the amount which might have been sunk in the purchase of an Indicator. In other ways the saving can be shown as a distinct gain to the library, as £137 saved on an indicator means at least 822 books added to stock, and this is an important consideration in a new library. Again, with an indicator, every book added costs nearly 1½d. for indicator space, besides which, in a classified indicator, large sections must be left at the end of every main class, which cost money, and may lie useless perhaps for years. Another very important point is this. In indicator libraries, at least one more assistant is necessary for carrying on the work. In some cases, duly set forth in reports and Greenwood's *Library Year-Book*, it appears that in many indicator libraries, nearly twice as many assistants are employed as there are in open shelf libraries, doing as much, or even more work. Here, then, is a serious leakage of public money in the provision of unnecessary labour, and I have indicated a way in which economies can be effected in the working of libraries supported on limited incomes.

It is not necessary to pursue this theme further, and if young librarians will give a little study to the facts and factors above recorded, it may have a healthy effect in saving them from the tame and unenterprising policy of following blindly and without independent enquiry, the older and more conventional sheep of the profession.



PUBLIC LIBRARY LECTURESHIPS.

By H. A. C. SAMPSON.

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THE speech of Mr. John Morley at Plumstead, at the opening of the Public Library, once more drew public attention to a regrettable state of things existing in most institutions of a similar nature. The annual reports of the many libraries up and down the country are at one with Mr. Morley in regretting the huge call for light reading in preference to works of a more substantial character. Librarians are always glad to be able to report any improvement in this matter, but no one, as far as I know, has, as yet, suggested any way of lifting the tastes of readers to a higher level.

The fact of the matter is that the Public Library as it stands at present is a very much over-estimated benefit to the community. The

avowed object of the various donors of libraries, is the education of the people. Mr. Carnegie, attributing his success in life to access to a private library in his youth, now does his best for other young men by making libraries free to all. There are two or three errors in the system however. The library of Mr. Carnegie's youth was small but well chosen. It consisted of books which were calculated to improve and strengthen the mind, and the librarian was a man who, knowing the value of each volume from personal experience, was able to direct the reading of his young friends in the way likely to be most useful to each of them. The library of five or ten thousand volumes is a very different matter. The librarian, however well read or highly educated, has neither time nor authority to control the issue of books and the borrower must make what selection he can from the titles in the catalogue.

To say that a Public Library is an educative force is, therefore, begging the question. Imagine a school run on similar lines! Five thousand volumes, comprising, Geography, Arithmetic, Red Indian tales, Euclid, W. H. G. Kingston, Latin Grammar and Talbot Baines Reed. Announce in the local paper that this great educational centre will be available to the youth of the town, and that books will be supplied on application to the librarian—an ex-postman. What possible advance could take place in the education of the boy borrowers? Yet the Public Libraries, intended to educate those whose education in youth was not exactly completed, are run on precisely similar lines—the accessibility of text-books is expected to ensure an advancement of learning.

In the place of the light reading, which Mr. Morley regretted, he suggested the study of Byron, just as though a man should tell the borrowers in the school library outlined above, to drop Red Indians and go in for Euclid. The advice would be sound enough, but unless a boy could be convinced that Euclid was more useful and more necessary and—in the end—more entertaining, than Red Indians, I very much doubt whether he would make the exchange.

The conclusion naturally arrived at is that libraries, to educate and instruct, must possess educators and instructors as well as text-books. I would suggest to philanthropists, therefore, that a lectureship endowment be included in their gifts and legacies. The plan of working would be as follows.

A central examining body, in connection say with the University of London, should be empowered to grant "Library Lectureship Certificates" to approved applicants after examination. The examinations to be according to a syllabus drawn up and issued yearly by authorities of the University. The syllabus should cover subjects such as are best suited to the needs of the time, and candidates might be permitted to choose from an optional portion of it such parts as possess a special reference to their districts. The certificates might be granted to cover a period of twelve months, or, with a more comprehensive examination, five years.

Holders of these diplomas could then be engaged, by the local Library authorities, to give lectures on subjects calculated to arouse and maintain an intelligent interest in the books in the library. This should be the one aim of the lectures—they may touch any subject whether it be literary, scientific, topical, political, or technical but the further study of the said subject must be available—the lecturer must *introduce* his hearers to the pleasures of the library.

The lecturers would be appointed for one session. During the session they should deliver one or more independent lecture, or a series of three or four. Any lecturer proving himself inefficient would not of course be engaged for another session and would not, unless he wished, undergo the qualifying examination. All lecturers should be residents within the radius of the library authority. An endowment of one thousand pounds at 3% would provide a lecturer's fee of a guinea a week for six months, and leave £2 14s. od. for the printing of a syllabus.

A Library Lectureship would be a coveted distinction among young professional, men of a town, schoolmasters and the like. Besides the mental training necessary to pass the examinations, the position would carry with it opportunities for influence and advancement at present unobtainable. Both lecturer and lectured would thus benefit by a scheme which would, at the same time, lift the library to the level of a useful institution. Readers might in time learn to prefer Byron or Ruskin or Herbert Spencer to Mrs. Henry Wood or similar sensation-alists. "We needs must love the highest when we see it"—give everyone a chance of seeing it.



LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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[*Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.*]

Balbriggan, Ireland.—Dr. Carnegie eulogized the plans for this library thus: "a model building in regard to the accommodation it gives and the way it is arranged." Mr. G. L. O'Connor, the architect, may well be proud of this commendation.

Bridgend.—Lord Dunraven has offered to defray three-fourths of the price of land bought of him for library purposes, and there will be little difficulty in raising the remaining fourth to enable the Council to take advantage of Dr. Carnegie's offer of £2,000 for the cost of building.

Brierley Hill.—The Public Library has cost £1,021 more than the £2,000 given by Dr. Carnegie, who is to be appealed to for a further contribution.

Coventry.—The late Mr. John Gulson, for nearly half a century a member of the Council, has bequeathed £500 to the Public Library, and many valuable books, etchings, &c., to the care of the city fathers.

THE other day the **Croydon** Central Library was the scene of an interesting ceremony, when Mr. Walter Cook, for some years an assistant there, resigned his position to take up another in the Kimberley Public Library. Mr. Cook, who is a very energetic and enterprising assistant, and very popular both with his colleagues and the public, and who has been forced to take this step through ill health, was the recipient of a handsome presentation from the Croydon staff. We hope he will be successful in his new sphere, and give him our heartiest good wishes.

Croydon now possesses an organized system of libraries for elementary schools, provided by the Education Committee, and administered by the Chief Librarian under the general control of a School Libraries Sub-Committee, on which are representatives of the Education and Libraries Committees and of the Head Teachers. Each of the Elementary Schools in the borough, provided and non-provided, has received a collection of books for circulation among the scholars in standards iv. and upwards (at present). The initial stock consists of about 2,500 volumes, which have been divided, proportionately to the number of children, among the fifty-seven elementary boys' and girls' schools in Croydon. The collections are small, not sufficient to meet the demands it is expected the boys and girls will make upon them; but this will be remedied in the course of time, as each section will be added to yearly. During the summer holidays the books will be returned to the Central Public Library for examination and repairs, and will again be sent out, but not to the same schools. By this means an entirely new selection of books will come within reach of the children every year. A simple method of charging has been adopted. A special school libraries assistant is employed to attend to the general details of the work. The actual arranging and issuing of books to the children is done by a school librarian appointed by the Head Teacher.

Darlaston.—There must be something wrong in the arrangements of the Public Library of this Midland town, as a councillor recently expressed the hope that, before more books were added, the library would be improved, as at present it was not fit to enter.

Glasgow, Anderston.—This District Library, opened in part on December 21st, is now in full work, the lending library having been organized and completed. To the left of the main entrance is a general reading room, for papers, magazines, and books, with open cases for books of reference. A room for ladies is opposite this, and at the back, facing the entrance, is the lending library of some 10,000 volumes. Juvenile readers are provided for on the upper floor. It is claimed that Glasgow will soon have the most complete system of Public Libraries in the Kingdom.

Haslingden.—The trustees of the Institute have sold the building to the Corporation for Public Library purposes. Dr. Carnegie is providing £2,500 of the purchase money.

Haworth.—There seems to be a sum of £500 in the hands of the Mechanics' Institute which is not utilized. The proposal to add this sum to the fund for the Public Library appeared likely to wreck the building scheme, for the trustees of the Institute required the fulfilment of certain conditions which did not meet with the approval of the Haworth District Council. The difficulty is likely to be overcome, and, if so, this sum added to the £1,500, promised some years since by Dr. Carnegie, will enable the Council to start the building forthwith.

Horbury.—The *Wakefield Express* of January 7th, contained an illustration of the new Public Library at Horbury. The building appears to be eminently suitable for the purpose and is unostentatious in design. Mr. B. Watson, of Batley, is the architect.

Kingston-on-Thames.—At a meeting of the Architectural Association Mr. Maurice B. Adams paid a graceful compliment to Mr. Alfred Cox by saying "His design for the Kingston Library, accepted in preference to my own, . . . makes a very admirable building."

Kinross, N.B.—A new Public Library is to be erected at Kinross from plans by Mr. Peter L. Henderson, Edinburgh. The building is in two stories, the upper flat containing a house for the librarian, and a museum, while on the ground floor are—on the left of the entrance, a lending library for 6,500 volumes; on the right a reading room, and at the back a hall to accommodate 160 persons, with retiring room, lavatories, &c. At the back of the hall is a small gallery, to accommodate about 30 persons. The front is a simple treatment in Scotch stonework, with a battlement tower in the centre bearing an inscription tablet, and flanked on the one side with a crow-stepped gable, and on the other with a pavilion roof and dormer.—*The Builder*.

Knutsford.—Mr. George Milner, M.A., opened the Library on December 31st, in the presence of a crowded meeting, when the generosity of Dr. Carnegie, who gave £1,580, the cost of building, and of Mr. George Holt, who presented the site, were duly acknowledged.

Paisley.—The new wing of the Public Library and Museum buildings is to be devoted wholly to library purposes. A top-lighted reading room is on the ground floor, while accommodation for lady readers, and a juvenile room, are provided above.

Plumstead.—Good illustrations of Mr. Frank Sumner's plans for this recently opened library, appeared in *The Surveyor* of December 30th.

Rawtenstall.—The *Builders' Journal*, December 28th, contained a small but striking view of the selected design for the Public Library and Municipal Buildings. Messrs. Crouch and Butler and R. Savage are the architects.

Shipley.—A Public Library was opened on January 2nd, when the first borrower (Mr. Joseph Midgley, a councillor), was served with a book from the lending department. There are at present 11,000 volumes in this library which is the successor to the Saltaire Library. The Carnegie Library in Leeds Road is to be built forthwith.

Southend.—The action of the Council in deciding to erect a Public Library has called forth much stormy opposition in the Press, and at a meeting held at Westcliff it was declared that the initial cost would be at least £5,000 in excess of Dr. Carnegie's gift of £8,000, involving a heavy burden on the rates.

Stepney.—The arrangements allowing poor children to study their evening lessons in warm rooms of the Borough Libraries instead of in the too-often cold, comfortless, and dirty surroundings of their homes, is apparently much appreciated by the little ones.

Stratford-on-Avon.—We congratulate Mr. E. G. Holtom upon his adaptation of the fifteenth century house in Henley Street to the purposes of a Public Library, and feel convinced that his picturesque design will appeal even to those who have so strenuously opposed the scheme on the ground that it was destructive of a memorial of Shakespeare's days. A totally mistaken notion, for all that was visible to the passer-by was an ugly brick facing wall, erected in the eighteenth century, with a crockery shop beneath! This sham facing has been removed, and a facing in character with the ancient timber work behind, erected in its place. The *Building News* of January 13th gives not only Mr. Holtom's elevation and interior adaptation, but shows, by photography, the original timber framing which is now incorporated in the building.

Tipton.—Operations have been commenced on the buildings for a Public Library which, it is anticipated, will be ready for opening in the Autumn.

Wandsworth.—By 23 to 14 votes the Borough Council decided that the Libraries Committee be instructed to take the necessary steps for causing the obliteration of all betting news and tipsters' advertisements from the newspapers supplied to the Public Libraries of the borough.

Westminster.—January 1st, was selected for the Sunday opening of the City's Public Library in St. Martin's Lane, but as the event was little known, and the hours were limited (6.0 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.) only some hundred or so of people attended, and few books were required from the reference shelves. We shall watch the experiment with interest during the trial period of three months. The large majority of the Metropolitan Borough Libraries are open for a short period on Sundays.

Mr. Niven of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, has been appointed Sub-librarian of the Johannesburg Public Library, of which Mr. Cadenhead is the chief.



THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

Anson (W. S. W.). Mottoes and badges of families, regiments, schools, colleges, states, towns, livery companies, societies, &c., British and Foreign, with translations into English of the Foreign examples. London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd. [1904]. (64°.) 8°, 4", pp. 192. Price 1s. net.

A useful volume of Routledge's Miniature Reference Library, clearly printed, and containing about 2,500 mottoes of all kinds, with occasional notes, as well as explanations and translations.

Boccaccio. The Decameron, or ten days' entertainment. London: Chatto & Windus, 1904. 8°, 6½", pp. xxxii. + 556. *Port.* Price 2s. net. in cloth, 3s. net. in leather.

This handy and complete edition of the "Decameron," is a reprint of the translation issued some years ago with an introduction by Thomas Wright. It is without this preliminary matter, or the illustrations by Stothard, but is in every other respect complete. As this excellent translation has been out-of-print for some time, it will be welcome to many librarians and book-lovers.

Brontë. Wuthering Heights, by Emily Brontë, pp. 334. Agnes Grey, by Anne Brontë, pp. 191. Poems by the Brontë Sisters, pp. 162. London: T. Nelson & Sons [1905]. 8°, 6½". *Front.* Price 2s. net.

Another volume of the New Century Library, on thin paper, containing the completion of the works of the Brontë sisters.

Brownell (L. W.). Photography for the sportsman, naturalist. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1904. 8°, 8", pp. xx. + 312. *Illustr.* Price 8s. 6d. net.

Practical directions for nature photography, including animals, birds, fish, flowers, trees, &c., with chapters on apparatus and methods.

A handsome and well-illustrated American work on the art of photographing animals and plants in their habitats. It is a very interesting book from the natural history as well as from the practical side, and, in these days of realistic biological photography, it should find a place on the library shelves, in company with Kearton and other nature photographers.

Cellini (Benvenuto, 1500-1571). Autobiography. Translated by Thomas Roscoe. London: George Newnes, Ltd., 1904. 8°, 6½", pp. viii. + 572. *Port.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

A reprint, in Newnes' well-known series of thin paper classics, of the life of the celebrated Florentine artist, silversmith, and swash-buckler, which Roscoe translated in 1822. It is a clearly printed and dainty edition, well suited for private libraries and collectors.

Cooper (J. F.). The Pioneers, or the Sources of the Susquehanna, a descriptive tale. With illustrations by H. M. Brock. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1901. 8°, 7¼", pp. 456. Price 2s. 6d.

The edition of standard novels, which Messrs. Macmillan commenced some years ago, is being re-issued in cheaper form now, and recalls the fact that, as regards style, size, and durability, this series is undoubtedly one of the most suitable for Public Library purposes. Certainly no other version of Cooper's Leatherstocking Tales can equal this, and the "Pioneers" is a very good example of the set.

Latham (Edward). A Dictionary of abbreviations, contractions, and abbreviative signs . . . London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd. [1904]. (64°.) 8°, 4", pp. ii. + 126. Price 1s. net.

A pocket dictionary of abbreviations, alphabetical and other, used in every profession. It gives symbols, as well as literal abbreviations, and is a most useful companion and supplement to the ordinary dictionaries of language.

Mason (Daniel Gregory). Beethoven and his forerunners. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1904. 8°, 7¾", pp. viii. + 352. *Ports.* Price 8s. 6d. net. [No INDEX.]

A series of papers tracing the influence of Palestrina, Haydn, Mozart, and others on the development of musical art, culminating in Beethoven.

This critical and historical review of an important period in the evolution of musical art forms a useful addition to the Beethoven literature, which is so rapidly accumulating. It is written in a lucid and interesting style, and should form an excellent text book for students of music.

• **Murray** (David). Museums, their history and their use. With a bibliography and list of museums in the United Kingdom. Glasgow: Jas. MacLehose and Sons. 1904. 8°, 9" 3 vols. Price 32s. net.

Contains an introductory account of early and modern museums, their policy, catalogues and uses, with an extensive bibliography of the literature of museums in vols. 2-3, divided into five sections—bibliography; museography: collection, &c., of specimens; catalogues and other works; travels and general literature.

This important work is the most exhaustive and valuable contribution to the subject of Museums which has appeared for a long time. In many respects it is the only book which gives any information on certain aspects of modern museum work, and it will undoubtedly be a quarry for all future authors. Dr. Murray has not attempted to deal with the minutiae of museum arrangement, but he has written some

remarkably sensible and pointed remarks on English local museums and their usually featureless character, which should appeal to library authorities who are charged with the administration of such scrap-heaps. He is all for the educational idea, with scientific classification, intelligent and descriptive labelling, and other methods which are to be found ably illustrated and expounded in the *Museums Journal*. The bibliographical part of the work is a monument of patient and long-continued research, and Dr. Murray's annotations and references are both frequent and accurate. Altogether the work is one which ought to have a place on the shelves of every Public Library and museum, and we have great pleasure in most heartily recommending a work which fills so completely a great void in the literature of Museums.

Fumagelli (G.). *Lexicum typographicum Italiae. Dictionnaire géographique d'Italie pour servir à l'histoire de l'imprimerie dans ce pays.* Florence: Leo S. Olschki, 1905, pp. xlviii + 588 + plates. Price 40 lire.

It has been known for some time that Signor Fumagelli had in preparation a typographical gazetteer of Italy, and his great knowledge of, and his enthusiasm for, the subject, raised hopes that a really great work would be issued, commensurate with the position of Italy in the History of Printing. In the volume before us, it is not too much to say that these hopes have been entirely fulfilled. The author gives us first a general introduction on Printing in Italy, dealing *en passant* with the Castaldi myth of the Italian invention of the art, and giving a general view of its development and progress throughout the peninsula. Paper-making and the early use of lithography are also dealt with. An abstract is given of the statistics of the trade from the latest figures available, and an article on the authorities concludes the introductory matter.

The Dictionary itself is in alphabetical order, and each place is dealt with in the following manner. The vernacular place-name followed by Latin, French, and other equivalents, the division and province where situated. The date of the introduction of printing a short sketch of the subsequent history, varying in length from a paragraph to articles of many pages in the case of great cities, notes of official documents, authorisations, &c., and, finally, the latest information from the official volumes of statistics, giving the number of printing offices, presses and workmen employed. There are many illustrations added, facsimiles of the first productions of the press, portraits of printers, typographical marks, autographs, and many others.

The complete bibliography has never yet, and, we believe, never will be compiled, and the working out of the more obscure presses in a gazetteer of this description is more or less (generally more) a matter of chance than anything else. The author has been remarkably successful in his search, and we are only able to add a few notes, and those not of much importance (some of them, we are afraid, also of rather doubtful authenticity), to his list.

- Ascoli Piceno*, p. 16. Tibaldesco (C.). Manuale judicum.—Asculi MDCXXXI. Sumptibus Marci Salvioni.
- Balestrino*, p. 24. Palmistae lyrici parafrasis lyricae in Psalterium Davidis Regis, &c. *Two parts*.—Balestrini, Typis Barth. Merelli, n.d. [License dated 20th September, 1686.]
- Benevento*, p. 32. 2nd press. Concilium pra. Beneventarum quod Vinc. Maria O. Praed, habuit ao 1693.—Beneventi, typogr. Archiep. 1693.
- Bergamo*, p. 33. 2nd press. Seneca, Tragoediae X.—Excussa Bergami Praelis Marci Antonii Rubei. MDLII.
- Biella*, p. 36. Armo (G. F.). De vesicae, &c.—Bugellae, 1550. [No printer's name.] British Museum. Regulae Baldi, &c.—Bugellae Apud Cassianum Mondellam. 1572.
- Bracciano*, p. 50. Insalata Mescolanza di C. G. D'Ogobbio.—I. Bracciano per And. Fei. MDCXXI.
- Codogno*, p. 89. Maffaei Card. Barberini (Urban VIII.) Poemata.—Cotonei apud Alexandrum et Io. F. Bazachios, 1628.
- Corigliano Calabro*, p. 98. Dottor G. Amato, Crono-istoria di Corigliano-Calabro.—Corigliano Calabro, tip. del Popolano, 1884. Bib. Nat., Paris.
- Frascati*, p. 165. The British Museum has a copy of Belli's work on the Gregorian chant, but dated 1788 instead of 1778. The imprint is "In Frascati MDCCLXXXVIII. Nella Stamperia dello stesso Seminario.
- Pozzuoli*, p. 317. Aug. de Angelus: Tract. theol. de immac concept. Puteolis typis haer Canilli Canalli, 1661.
- Recanati*, p. 322. Angelita: I Pomi d'Oro.—Ricanati, 1607.
- Sorivoli*. Salice (G. A.) Discorsi. T. Faberij, 1627.
- Terranova*, p. 412. Tavole genealogiche di vari sovrani d'Europa.—Terra Nuava, a spese di Favino Biscoti, 1789.

We can only add that the book is an absolute necessity to anyone engaged in cataloguing of any kind. The tables at the end include indexes to the Latin and other forms of the place-names, names of printers, and a chronological list showing the order of the introduction of printing into the various places. A classified list of the illustrations concludes the book. The plates are excellently produced, the large facsimiles of the Roman press especially.

The fact that the book is in French and not in Italian must increase its circulation in this country. We cordially recommend every library to add it to the reference shelves.

Catalogue L. Riche et précieuse collection de livres à figures des 15^e et 16^e siècles soigneusement décrits et mis en vente par Leo S. Olschki. Avec 166 facsimiles, une table des matières et une table alphabétique des auteurs, pp. 604. Florence: Leo S. Olschki, 1900, 8°. Price 15 lira.

Monumenta typographica. Catalogus LIII. Primordii artis typographicae complectens editiones quae apud equitem Leonem S. Olschki bibliopolam Florentiae exstant, ab eo accurate describuntur pretiisque appositis venumdantur, pp. 498. Leo S. Olschki bibliopola. Florentiae, 1903, 8°. Price 20 lira.

Monumenta typographica. Catalogus LVII. [Supplement to No. 53], pp. 98. Florentiae: Leo S. Olschki, bibliopola, 1904, 8°. Price 5 lira.

These volumes are as little like booksellers' catalogues of the olden time as anything can be, and are not very typical of the bookseller's catalogue of to-day. There are very few men in Europe who are able to put forth volumes such as these as indexes to their stock. The enormous increase in the interest of bookbuyers for rare and illustrated books of the 15th and 16th centuries has led to (or, shall we say, has followed?) an increase in descriptive and illustrated cataloguing, which shows a very great advance on anything previously issued. The change first showed its head in England, when Mr. Voynich led the way by issuing catalogues in which all books were fully and bibliographically described. His rivals were not far behind him, however. In both Germany and Italy the improvement is very noticeable. The catalogues under notice are perhaps the finest ever issued by a bookseller. In point of illustration and fulness of description they are ahead of anything of their kind. The "Monumenta" is really more of a contribution to the bibliography of incunabula than a mere catalogue. There are described in it 1,385 books, arranged under presses, with the following indexes:—

1. Index of Authors.
2. Index of names of printers.
3. List of the Hain numbers.
4. List of books unknown to Hain.
5. List of Classical *Editiones principes*.
6. Index of Illustrations.
7. List of books with illustrations.
8. Chronological list.

The supplement adds 262 books to this total, also indexed fully. Apart from these special Catalogues, Mr. Olschki issues catalogues of his general stock. One, now in process of publication in parts, will total some 800 pages, with author index and facsimiles.



LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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CATALOGUES.

Brooklyn Public Library. Books for Boys and Girls: approved by the Brooklyn Public Library for use in its Children's Rooms. 44 pp. 8° 1904.

Primarily for the use of branch and children's librarians as an aid to requisitioning books for their children's rooms. It is not a complete catalogue of juvenile books in the library, and is not intended for use as a finding list in the hands of the children. The list is graded to a certain extent by marking with an asterisk all books especially desirable, and with a "C" those suitable for very young children. Entries are cut down to the author's surname, a brief title, and publisher. The list is classed in broad divisions, and at the end is given a "Reference Collection for the Children's Room."

Patent Office Library. Subject List of Works on the Fine and Graphic Arts (including Photography), and Art Industries. 374 pp. 8° 1904. Price 6d.

Arranged in alphabetical order by subjects, and with the books in each subject arranged chronologically. A key to the classification of headings is appended. This list comprises all the features made familiar by previous ones, and quite maintains their high level.

Woolwich Public Library. Catalogue of Books in the Lending Department of the Plumstead Library. ix. + 302 pp. 8° 1904.

Compiled on similar lines to the catalogue of the Woolwich Library, and, like it, a good specimen of the dictionary catalogue. An extensive use is made of different styles of type to distinguish large and small subject headings, and the various kinds of entries. No annotations are given, but contents are set out in some cases.

BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

Library of Congress. Select List of Books (with references to periodicals) relating to the Far East. Compiled under the direction of Appleton Prentiss Clark Griffin, Chief Bibliographer. 74 pp. 4° 1904.

Similar lists on:—

Banks and Banking. 55 pp. 4° 1904.

Budget of Foreign Countries. 19 pp. 4° 1904.

Germans in the United States. 32 pp. 4° 1904.

Immigration. 76 pp. 4° 1904.

Popular Election of Senators. 39 pp. 4° 1904.

Proportional Representation. 30 pp. 4° 1904.

Railroads in their Relation to the Government and the Public. 72 pp. 4° 1904.

Recognition in International Law and Practice. 18 pp. 4° 1904.

Check List of Large Scale Maps published by Foreign Governments (Great Britain excepted). Compiled under the direction of Philip Lee Phillips, Chief of Division of Maps and Charts. 116 pp. (one side only). 4° 1904.

The publications of the Library of Congress are now too well known to need any introduction. Under existing circumstances, to prepare and publish *one* of these lists would be as much as most British libraries could do; so that we can but envy, and be thankful that at least the United States Government are far-seeing enough to encourage this kind of work.

Coming back to the lists, if an improvement were possible, it would be the addition of a subject index. At present the references to books are arranged under authors, and references to periodicals chronologically; an author index is supplied. There are, however, numerous divisions of a subject upon which information might be wanted, and under the existing arrangement it would be necessary to read through the entire list to get everything.

The check list of maps has been prepared with a view to showing the deficiencies of the Library of Congress collection, in order that files may be completed.

BULLETINS.

Accrington. *Public Library and Technical School Journal.* Oct.-Dec., 1904. *Gratis.* Opens with library notes and news. The Mechanics Institution has presented a site, thus fulfilling Dr. Carnegie's condition. A three page note on the Library Association Conference is included. Lists of additions to the lending and reference departments, with brief annotations, come next, and the number concludes with a note on John Gault as a "forgotten Author," and others "On Matters Educational."

Brooklyn: Public Library and Pratt Institute. *Co-operative Bulletin.* Dec., 1904. *Gratis.* The Pratt Institute portion contains a novel feature. It is devoted to a "Christmas List," and consists of a list of books suitable for Christmas presents. It is classified, and publishers and prices are supplied. The books themselves are on exhibition at the library.

Croydon. *The Reader's Index.* Jan.-Feb., 1905. *Price 1d.* Mr. James D. Stewart contributes a review of the principal additions in each class during the past year. Then follow the usual annotated lists of additions to the lending and reference departments. The special feature of the number is a new department called "The Teacher's Note-Book," conducted by Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers. Its object is thus stated: "To promote co-operation between the work of the schools and the libraries of the Borough. To this end we shall attempt to interest teachers in the current literature of their profession by giving in each number of the library magazine a brief notice of recent books added of importance to them; a list of the principal articles on educational

subjects appearing in the magazines and reviews provided in the Reference Library and Newsrooms ; and notes of such other topics as may be of value and interest."

In this number it consists of a *causerie* on newly added books having special reference to physiology and psychology in education; a fully annotated list of articles in periodicals; and an account of the recently established school libraries, besides miscellaneous notes. The title-page and index to volume six are supplied with the number.

Nottingham. *Library Bulletin.* Jan., 1905. Price ½d. Contains a "Literary Calendar" for January, the usual lists of additions, a short list on "Football", and the second part of another on Foreign Missions. There is a noticeable improvement in this bulletin upon which the Nottingham authorities are to be congratulated.

St. Louis. *Monthly Bulletin.* Dec., 1904. This bulletin is one of the best coming from America. The present issue contains an annotated list of additions, an annotated reading list on "The City and Its Problems," and a short list of "books for Christmas Time."

REPORTS.

Longton, thirteenth report, 1903-04. Stock, 11,761 volumes; borrowers 1,481; volumes issued 49,757 (lending 47,518, reference 2,239), last year 46,810. In March, 1904, Mr. Herbert Walker resigned his position of librarian after a service of eleven years, and the present librarian, Mr. Joseph Hobson, was appointed. A collection of pottery, illustrating the staple industry of the district, has been started. There has been an increase all round in the use of the library.



THE LIBRARY PRESS.

o o o

IN the January number of the *Library Assistant*, Mr. H. G. Sureties makes "An appeal to Mr. Carnegie." His point is the familiar one, that instead of erecting small libraries in localities where the rate is insufficient for their adequate support, it would be better to help libraries already established in the clearing off of loans and thus to aid them to more efficient work. Mr. F. J. P. Burgoyne continues his paper on "The Display and Filing of Periodicals." Notes on the Library Association classes and on library journals, and notes and comments complete the number.

The December *Library Association Record* is the best number we have seen for some time. It opens with Mr. E. A. Savage's paper on "The Principles of Annotation." His text is that an annotation should be an abstract of the character and individuality of the book catalogued. Therefore, annotations should be confined to explanation and description, and criticism left out altogether. There are two appendices to the

paper. The first consists of a code of instructions in annotation with numerous examples. The code is exceedingly elaborate, and is valuable as being the only thing of its kind. The second appendix is a "Memory Table for Annotating Non-Fiction Books." As it is short we reproduce it :

1. Qualifications of author, editor or compiler.
2. Subject

{	(a) Argument.
{	(b) Relation of book to subject.
{	Special point of view or purpose.
{	Special features : matter not covered by title.
3. Editing, method and scope.
4. Appendices, glossaries, &c., of special value.

{	(a) Amplification or explanation of imprint.
{	(b) Authorities.
{	(c) Source of book, if published serially or orally before.
{	(d) Basis of work, <i>e.g.</i> , new work founded on old work.
{	(e) Date of original publication, if book is important.
{	(f) Sequels.
{	(g) Index (note absence in important cases).
5. Bibliographical Details

{	(a) Amplification or explanation of imprint.
{	(b) Authorities.
{	(c) Source of book, if published serially or orally before.
{	(d) Basis of work, <i>e.g.</i> , new work founded on old work.
{	(e) Date of original publication, if book is important.
{	(f) Sequels.
{	(g) Index (note absence in important cases).

The next paper is on "The Selection of Current Periodicals" by Mr. James Duff Brown. Mr. Brown enters a strong plea for a much more comprehensive field of selection than is in vogue at present, and insists upon the need of making the periodicals supplement the books in the general library collection. The paper, it will be remembered, was read in connection with the exhibition of the World's periodicals held at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The "Best Books of 1903" are represented by the following lists: History, by Mr. T. W. Lyster; Useful Arts, by Mr. H. V. Hopwood; Biographies in English, by Mr. H. R. Tedder; Travel, by Mr. J. R. Boosé; and Fiction, by Mr. E. A. Baker.

To the current *Folkbiblioteksbladet*, Gustaf Stridsberg contributes the first part of an article on Rudyard Kipling, for whom he seems to have no small admiration. Axel Hirsh reviews current Swedish literature, and G. H. von Koch writes on co-operative literature. The most interesting article in the number is one by Haakon Nyhuus on the St. Louis conference. Many reviews of books, and notes on current events, besides a few short articles, complete a very good number.



LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

o o o

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE third sessional meeting of the Library Association was held at 20, Hanover Square, on Monday, January 16th, when, owing to the severe weather, only a small attendance of members was registered. Mr. C. T. Davis, of Wandsworth, was called to the chair, and the following papers were read:—

State Aid to Public Libraries. By T. E. Maw, King's Lynn.
Indexes Wanted, By Walter Powell, Birmingham.

A brief discussion ensued, and the writers were thanked for their papers.

The next meeting will be held at 20, Hanover Square, on Monday, February 20th, when two papers will be read:—"Some aspects of the work of Henry Bradshaw," by C. F. Newcombe; and "The Golden Age of Book Illustration," by R. K. Dent.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE forty-sixth Meeting of this Association was held at Wolverhampton on Wednesday, December 14th. There was a good attendance of members, and after visiting the Art Gallery (where a special loan collection of paintings was on exhibition) they adjourned to the new Free Library and inspected the new building and its arrangements.

The members were entertained at tea by Councillor Jones (chairman of the Free Library Committee), and afterwards a delightful paper was read by Mr. James Turner, on Shakespeare's "As You Like It," illustrated with selections from the play, very effectively rendered. After the paper came a discussion, introduced by Mr. R. K. Dent, on the Bespeaking of Books in Public Lending Libraries. The discussion was taken up with spirit on both sides, but had to be postponed owing to the exigencies of railway-time. Mr. Elliot briefly described his system of displaying the remarkably extensive selection of Newspapers and Periodicals in the Reading Rooms. These are all fastened to their respective desks, without reading covers, a method which came in for some criticism, although it was admitted that it was one which gave a very orderly appearance to the rooms, and had the further advantage of allowing of more exact indication in the List of Periodicals of the whereabouts of each paper and magazine. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Councillor Jones for his generous hospitality, and to Mr. Elliot for the excellent arrangements which he had made for his meeting.

LIVERPOOL LIBRARY OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

THE first Annual Meeting, was held, by the courtesy of the Committee, at William Brown Street, on the 9th January, the members and lady friends being entertained to tea by Mr. Cowell, F.R.H.S., the President and Chief Librarian. Later in the evening Mr. Cowell delivered an instructive and entertaining lecture on "Old Liverpool," illustrated by rare views of many of the historical spots of the town. The Meeting proper was presided over by Mr. William Hewarth, Chairman of the Association, and the following Officers were elected to serve during the current year:—Mr. W. R. Wild, hon secretary; Mr. I. C. Hewarth, treasurer; Messrs. R. C. Beathe, J. Davison, W. C. Hewarth and F. J. Taylor, committee. A pleasant feature of the proceedings was the presentation of a dressing case and an umbrella, subscribed for by about fifty old boys, to Mr. Thomas Formby, who has recently retired from the position of deputy librarian, after many years' service. The Association now numbers ninety members.



CORRESPONDENCE.

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LIBRARY ASSOCIATION EXAMINATIONS.

To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.

Sir,—Last year the *Library World* published some articles by Mr. James Duff Brown, which were of very great value to students of librarianship. I refer, of course, to the *Annotated Syllabus for the Systematic Study of Librarianship*, since published in pamphlet form—a work that ought to be in every assistant's library, yes and in every librarian's library.

One part of the syllabus was not fully treated, viz., that referring to translations into English, of the works of great foreign authors. After having given some time to that department I am not surprised that the writer confessed that it bristled with difficulties, still, it is an important part of the syllabus, and one worthy of much attention. Couldn't the *Library World* endeavour to help assistants and librarians by securing contributions on the subject? Men like Mr. Brown and Mr. A. W. Pollard would be able, if willing, to assist in this matter.

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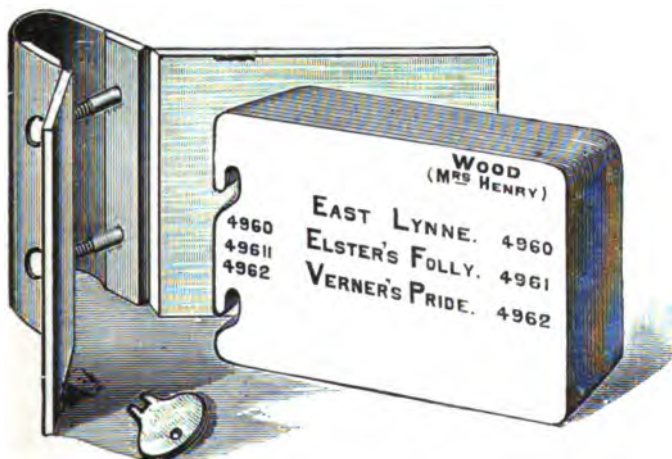
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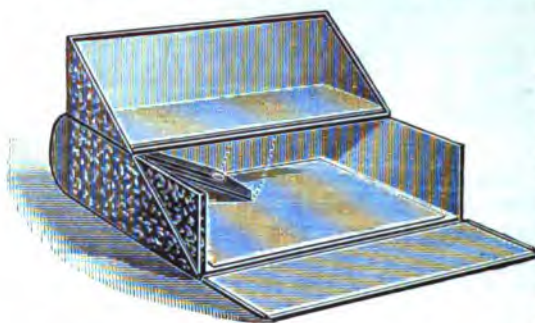
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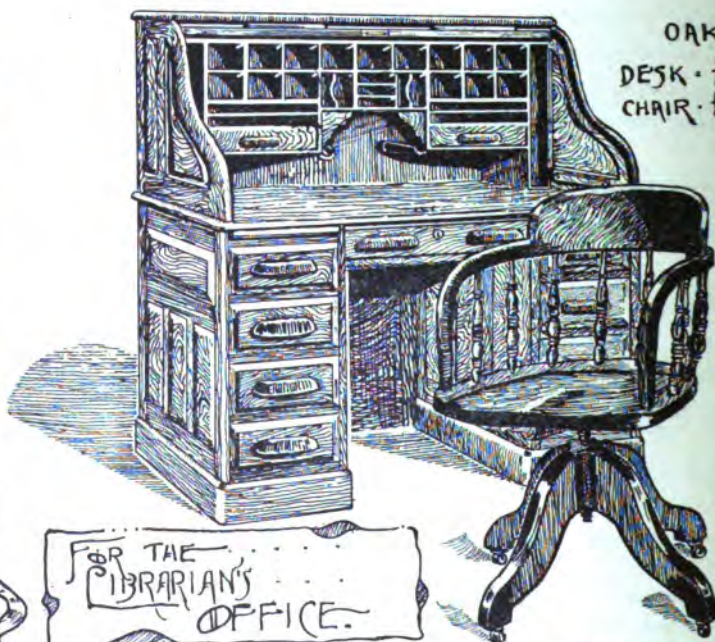
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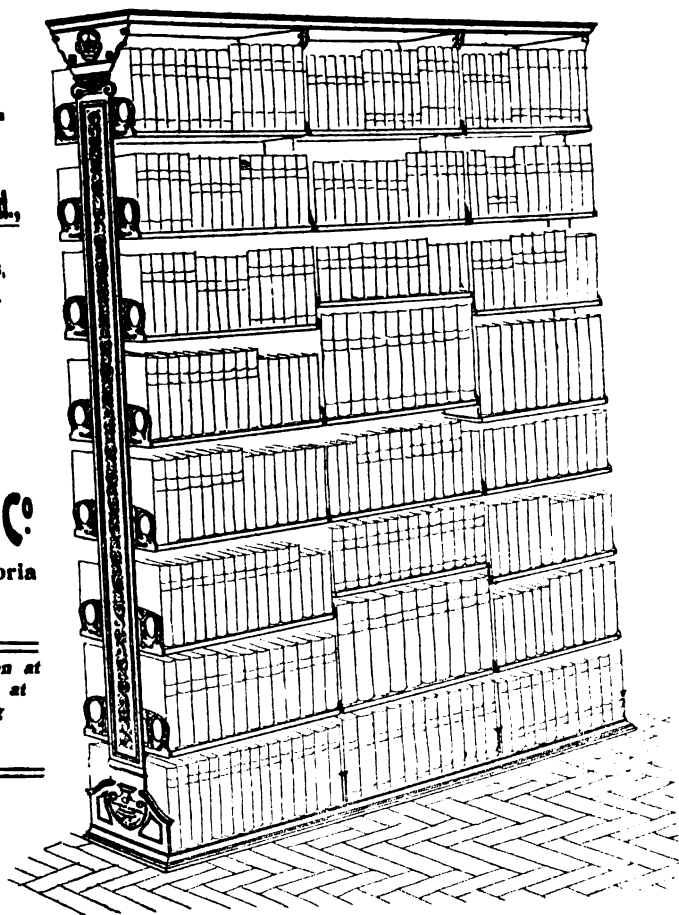


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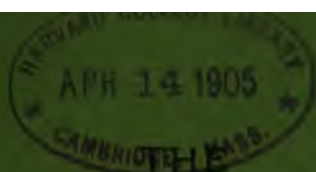
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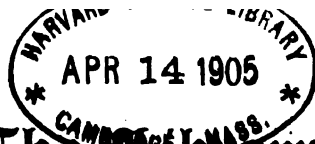
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LIBRARY MAGAZINES: THEIR PREPARATION AND PRODUCTION.

By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS and JAMES D. STEWART, Croydon Public Libraries.

o o o

I.

FIRST PRINCIPLES.

IN a system like that of the Public Library, which is yet in the evolutionary stage, it is but natural—as it is also a sign of vitality—that there should be conflicting opinions on many questions of administration. On one general principle, however, librarians are unanimous. It is that the Public Library should be conducted upon sound business methods. Yet, strange to say, although it is generally conceded that sound business principles are essential to success in librarianship, that a lack of business acumen is fatal to efficiency, one of the cardinal points of modern business has been almost altogether overlooked. Systematic advertising, the key-note of modern business, which forms the chief difference between the new methods and the old, is the point to which we refer. That advertisement, the real secret of success, has been overlooked, is not wholly the result of accident, but is rather due to the fact that many librarians are haunted by a fear of degrading their profession by employing this means of reaching the public. They fear that, if they advertise, they may be classed with the vendors of Black's Pills or Green's Ointment; but, after all, the Public Library is a business institution—it may not be a commercial institution, but it is certainly a business one. It is here—if we may be allowed a short digression to illustrate our point—that British and American libraries differ so radically. The successful American librarian is not a librarian as we know one. He is a business man. Granted that it is a part of his business to know the ins and outs of technical librarianship; yet, unlike his British contemporary, he does not consider it his whole business. He has a trained staff to whom he can leave the technical detail, while he devotes himself to running the library on the most approved business lines. The result has been that, instead of the American librarian being degraded, he has risen very highly in the estimation of the public. And if the status of the American librarian can thus be raised, why not that of the British? It is not necessary to use startling handbills or aggressive posters to achieve the desired end. It is absolutely true that in many towns possessing excellent and old-established libraries, there is a large percentage of the population to which the library is a dead letter, or is altogether unknown. On examining the figures in the *Annotated*

Volume VII. No. 81. March, 1905.

Syllabus, which have been compiled from the returns of most British libraries, we find that the percentage of *possible* readers is fifty, while the percentage of *actual* readers is twenty. This leaves the large percentage of thirty, representing people who must be reached through advertising.

Apart from improved systems of issue, freedom of access, and systematic classification, all of which, in the wide sense of the term, are advertisements, the best medium yet produced for attracting the likely reader's attention is the library magazine, index, guide, or bulletin, as it is variously called. The desirability of this feature, wherever the income allows of its publication, is so generally recognised that it is unnecessary to enter into the arguments for and against. One point, however, it may be as well to note. It has been said that a complete printed catalogue of the library is as good an advertisement as a magazine. But is it? The complete printed catalogue, it is true, acts as a permanent advertisement, but its very permanency tells against it. With a purely initial circulation, it soon loses any freshness it possesses; it is expensive; is out of date a week after publication. Worse than all, experience has shown that it usually forms a substantial addition to the useless accumulations of the library after a few hundred copies have been sold. In contrast to this, consider the advantages of the magazine. With a periodical circulation, it is perpetually refreshing the mind of the public as to the existence of the institution, and is continually reaching a large number of new readers. It supplies the best possible means of keeping the catalogue absolutely up to date, and offers facilities for descriptive cataloguing unobtainable with a complete printed list. An ever-increasing circle of libraries employ the card catalogue, and occasional class-lists issued in relation to this form one solution of the catalogue difficulty. But undoubtedly the finest method of keeping the card catalogue up to date is the issue of a bulletin. Moreover, in a publication of this nature, cataloguing methods can be brought nearer the ideal; a great fulness of bibliographical and explanatory detail can be obtained, except of course in those libraries where the additions are in such great number as almost to swamp the bulletin with mere titles. However, such libraries are few and far between, and our argument applies to the great majority of library bulletins. The supplying of full descriptions of books raises the important question of annotation. It may be taken as one of the first principles of bulletin work that entries should be annotated. Bare lists of titles no doubt serve some purpose, but such lists are bald and unattractive to any but the constant and interested frequenter of the institution; and as one cardinal object of the publication is to interest and attract the uninterested, these bare titles must be supplemented by matter that attracts and explains. Apart from this, examples of titles showing the absolute necessity of annotation might be multiplied indefinitely, but to drive the point home, take the case of

“ Ruskin, John.—Unto This Last.”

which is meaningless until explained.

Although the bulletin should be made as attractive as possible, everything included beyond the actual cataloguing *must be germane to the work of the library*. This is a point upon which too great emphasis cannot be laid. Having fulfilled the catalogue function, the next use of the bulletin is as a medium of announcements. Librarianship has broadened to include numerous functions other than the mere issue of books, though all are, or should be, subservient to that main function. Half-hour talks, library lectures, readings, exhibitions, relations with schools, debating societies, and many other developments will come to mind. All these tend to reveal the capabilities of the libraries, and the magazine is the vehicle of revelation. Notes of prospective talks and lectures, lists of books dealing with the subjects of which they and the debating societies treat are all matters for inclusion, as are also notes of new pedagogic works for teachers. It is almost painful to see how little many public librarians know of the activities of the various institutional, literary, debating and philosophic societies in their districts. To be in touch with these—with the syllabus of the Wesley Guild and that of the local Gardeners' Association—and to present month by month well-arranged descriptive lists of works on the subjects under discussion, is to provide an advertisement for the library that years of annual reports and bald statistics in the local newspapers will fail to give. We hope later to deal with the principles on which the ideal reading list is built; the list which shows clearly the relation and interdependence of book and book, so that the student may find the book suited to his needs, and the most advanced expert may readily discover matter to his liking. Having fulfilled the functions of catalogue and reading list the magazine may be further broadened to include bibliographical articles. These to come within the scope of the magazine must be written with a single eye to the books. Informing they may be to the fullest degree; nevertheless it must be clear to the reader that these articles do not pretend to convey the essence of the books about which they are written, but only to act as signposts to the books. In addition to the above, room should be found for notes on the current local library practice. We recently noticed in a library magazine an explanation of a new date label—an elaborate one, by-the-by—just introduced into the library; another published plans of its various departments, indicating the classification and location of books. Alterations in rules, and explanations of the privileges of readers, form another important branch of the matter that may be included with advantage. These, together with statistics of issue and accounts of donations, are practically all the subjects that may legitimately find a place in a library magazine.

Having glanced in this perfunctory manner at the things which come within the scope of the bulletin, let us glance as rapidly at those things which do *not*, but which are unfortunately too often inserted. First there are lives of local celebrities. Some years ago a library magazine published by instalments a biography of William Penn, making scarcely a reference to the books from which the material was borrowed; and all because in youth Penn had some connection with

the neighbourhood. Another has articles on local flora, and, occasionally, pages on local antiquities. These would be within the scope of the periodical did they reveal the books on the subject to be found in the library ; but, for the magazine to usurp the place of the local newspaper, or to act as the record of the proceedings of local antiquarian and scientific societies is for it to lose its identity as a library publication. Again, local gossip of all kinds must be rigorously suppressed. If a collection of Roman coins has been unearthed in the neighbourhood, let reference be made to it by all means, *if* the reference be used to show what manuals of coin-collecting are to be found on the shelves ; otherwise the matter is of no consequence to the library as a library. Further, let no librarian attempt to make his magazine a bad—very bad—imitation of the *Academy* or *Athenæum*. Long disquisitions on individual books, unsigned and full of personal opinions, are not our business. Literary snippets, too, cuttings of poetry—even though they touch the subject of books—are inadmissible. The following, which we extract from a recent library magazine, is another illustration of what should not be included :

“‘*What is the secret of Marie Corelli’s popularity?*’
is the title of a lengthy review of ‘God’s Good Man’
which appears in the October number of the *Review of Reviews*. From this we extract some isolated sentences.”

Then follows a column or more of extracts from the said article, of this description : “The age is out of joint ; but, thank Heaven ! Marie Corelli was born to put it right.” How much better if a note under the heading of, say, “Current Articles” had indicated the presence of this review. The same magazine, which is an excellent one in many ways, has a selection of notes about authors, all of which are more appropriate to the literary column of the local paper than to the magazine. They smack of the scissors and pastepot, and lead nowhere.

Owing to its introductory character, this first article has necessarily been somewhat theoretical. In the succeeding articles we shall endeavour to explain in practical detail the working of a magazine from the collection of material to its publication.

(*To be continued.*)



COMPARATIVE LIBRARY LAW.

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II.

THE next important matter which claims attention is the question of the action of the State in distributing knowledge broadcast in the United Kingdom by means of local libraries ; the co-ordination of educational and library facilities ; and what has been done to obtain unity in methods of preserving knowledge as recorded in

books. As early as 1556, Dr. John Dee, reputed wizard, had suggested the formation of a Royal or Public Library, maintained from public funds, in which should be collected all valuable manuscripts and books which stood in danger of destruction after the suppression of the monastic houses. This "Supplication to Queen Mary," as it was called, received no attention, though it may indirectly have suggested more activity in the administration of the existing Royal collections. Of course, the document made no public impression, and as it was not printed till 1726, it cannot be regarded as more than an indication that the question of the preservation of knowledge in libraries was simmering early in the age of printing, as it had been stirring in the late years of written records, when Richard de Bury lived and wrote. Before the British Parliament legislated on behalf of Public Libraries for the first time, in 1708, an effort had been made in Scotland to obtain public recognition for libraries, by inviting the attention of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to the subject. In 1699, the Rev. James Kirkwood, a Presbyterian minister, issued an anonymous tract, entitled *An Overture for establishing of bibliotheks in every paroch throughout this kingdom*, which he supplemented and enforced by the publication of another tract, entitled *A copy of a letter anent a project for erecting a library in every presbytery, or at least county, in the Highlands* (1702). These projects were partly approved and carried out in 1704, but as they lacked public support, the most vital element in the existence and continuity of libraries, they gradually died out. No doubt Kirkwood's action, like Dee's, was suggestive if not very fruitful, because we find another clergyman moving Parliament in a somewhat similar direction. This was the Rev. Thomas Bray, celebrated for his missionary labours in North America, as well as for his labours on behalf of libraries for the clergy, both in England and America. He obtained the first Act ever passed by the British Parliament on behalf of general Public Libraries. This was 7 Anne, 1708. *An Act for the better Preservation of Parochial Libraries in that part of Great Britain called England*, which remains in force at the present day, though its provisions are useless, and were, indeed, of no practical avail for effecting the purpose in view. Few of the original Bray libraries exist, and, in spite of various stringent provisions in the Act of 1708 for maintaining the integrity of these parochial libraries, most of them have melted away. When Bray drafted the clause which provided for the libraries being "shut up and locked" in times of interregnum, he probably thought he had secured a certain measure of safety for the books. Nevertheless, in spite of pains and penalties, and a generally suspicious method of dealing with the clerical custodians of the past, nothing of very much importance remains to show what Bray's libraries were like. The legislative effort of 1708 seems to have exhausted Parliament, because from then till 1835 it made no further efforts on behalf of Public Libraries in general. It required the advocacy and agitation of many alert minds to rouse the Government to action, and we have to thank the persistence and ability of William Ewart and Edward Edwards, in particular, for

compelling Parliament to address itself to the question again. A Parliamentary Select Committee was appointed in 1835 to enquire into the management of the British Museum, in the course of which many eminent men, like Thomas Carlyle, gave evidence. This effectively aroused public opinion, and bit by bit little pieces of legislation affecting libraries began to dribble out. In 1845 an Act was passed for "encouraging the establishment of museums in large towns," under which some of the existing Public Libraries and museums were first brought into being. Then followed the Parliamentary *Select Committee on the existing Public Libraries in Great Britain and Ireland, and on the best means of extending the establishment of libraries freely open to the public, especially in large towns* (1849), promoted by Ewart, and carried to a triumphant conclusion by the enthusiasm and genius of Edward Edwards, from which emanated 13 & 14 Vict., c. 65—*Act for enabling Town Councils to establish Public Libraries and Museums*. (1850.) This piece of legislation, which was wrung from an unwilling Opposition of the Houses of Parliament by various compromises, greatly resembled those essays in futility described in homely language as trying to make a silk purse out of a sow's lug*, or endeavouring to get a quart of liquor into a pint measure. Its main provisions were briefly these: (1) Only towns in England with over 10,000 inhabitants could adopt the Act; (2) only one halfpenny in the pound of rental could be levied; and (3) the income from rate was to be devoted solely to defraying the cost of building loans and establishment charges. Of course such preposterous proposals could only end in a fiasco, and the Act remained on the Statute Book, an abortion to all intents and purposes, till it was repealed by a more generous measure. Meanwhile, in 1853, the original Act of 1850 was extended to Ireland and Scotland, and in 1854 Scotland obtained power by *An Act to amend an Act of the last Session for extending the Public Libraries Act, 1850, to Ireland and Scotland*, to levy a penny rate for library purposes, and in 1855 Ireland obtained the same increase of rating power by 18 & 19 Vict., c. 40—*An Act for further promoting the establishment of Free Public Libraries and Museums in Ireland*. Later in the year 1855, England obtained its first practicable library charter in 18 & 19 Vict., c. 70—*An Act for further promoting the establishment of Free Public Libraries and Museums in Municipal Towns, and for extending it to Towns governed under Local Improvements Acts and to Parishes*. In this Act, which remained the principal library statute till 1892, power was given to levy a rate of one penny in the pound on the rateable value of a town for library purposes, regulations were made for taking a vote of the inhabitants for or against the adoption of the Act, and for raising loans and keeping accounts. Library authorities were also empowered to purchase books, newspapers, maps, and specimens of art and science, to bind books, appoint and dismiss officers, make rules; and other matters of detail were provided for. Under the provisions of this Act most of the important existing municipal libraries were established, by the vote of the ratepayers, and it is therefore a fact that

* *Anglice*, ear.

Public Libraries are really the creation of the people of the country, and not of the Government. It is hard for the non-legal mind to determine what impediment to the establishment of municipal libraries existed before 1850. Certainly there was no general law *forbidding* libraries to be maintained at the expense of the community, and one has difficulty in understanding that relation between central and local authorities, by which the former seems to prohibit any expenditure for local purposes by the latter which is not specifically mentioned in some Act of Parliament. The weak point of this, and later Acts, is the use of the adoptive principle, under which local authorities *may*, if they think fit, put in force certain powers on which Parliament has set the seal of approval.

(To be continued.)



THE BUILDING OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

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ON January 6th, before the Architectural Association, Mr. Alfred Cox read a painstaking, practical paper, on planning and building Public Libraries. Our space will not allow its reproduction *in extenso* (as we should wish), and we must be content with a few extracts from the report contained in the *Building News*, premising that Mr. Cox referred mainly to the smaller class of libraries costing from £2,000 to £10,000 to erect:—

"It should have good light around it, and also be in as central and yet as quiet a position as it is possible to obtain. It should be large enough to allow of any probable future extension of the building to a reasonable degree; but in the case of suburban towns, which spring up like mushrooms, and develop at a rate far beyond the most careful calculations, the best solution of this problem will possibly be by means of small branch libraries. With regard to the general arrangements of the plan, these should be very simple, and, if possible all the public rooms arranged on one floor. . . . Supervision is of the first importance, and in planning should be always borne in mind. It is usual to arrange for this by placing the staff-counter or inclosure connected with the lending department in such a position that the assistants can command the main entrance and as many of the rooms as possible. . . . The entrance should be spacious, and open into a good-sized hall or broad corridor. . . . From this hall as many of the rooms as possible should be directly approached; the more-frequented rooms, as I mentioned before—such as the news and lending rooms—being, if possible, nearer the entrance. The counter or inclosure of the lending library should be conspicuous on entering, and, to my way of thinking, is better entirely open than having to pass through swing-doors to reach it. The reference room, being used by students and readers of more serious books, would necessarily be placed in the quietest part of the building, and in such a position where it would be unnecessary to be passed by people going into the other rooms. I suggest a good place for it is within the lending library counter, so that readers—as a rule there are not many—could pass into it through a wicket gate, which would be under the control of the attendants. The books, too, in this room, being of more value, are thus afforded better protection, and the attendants know who the

people are they pass into the rooms. . . . In some buildings a separate room is given for juvenile readers, and great care must be exercised in planning so as to put this in a position near the attendants, and also where the occupants cannot make themselves a nuisance to the other readers. . . . Many of the readers in the news-room are people in want of a situation, who go there solely for the purpose of consulting the advertisement columns of the daily Press, and it saves a lot of traffic in the library if the entrance lobby is made large enough to accommodate on the side walls notice-boards for the display of the advertisement sheets. This means that the vestibule or lobby must be made fairly wide so that easy access to the library itself is not interfered with. . . . All counter tops or slopes should be of polished hard wood. Floors must be rendered as noiseless as possible, and wood blocks or cork carpets are generally used. Care must be taken in the latter case to have the floor thoroughly dry and well-ventilated from underneath, otherwise dry rot will occur. The walls should have glazed brick or tile dadoes in the public rooms and lobbies, as without them they are apt to get very much knocked about."

In the course of the discussion which following the reading of Mr. Cox's paper Mr. Maurice B. Adams expressed his concurrence with the views of the lecturer, particularly in the objection to roof lights, and in the advocacy of a spacious and dignified entrance hall. For style, he said, the Late Renaissance seemed best adapted to modern needs.



THE BODLEY KALENDAR.

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THE Staff-Kalendar of the Bodleian Library appears in a new form this year, and the issue for 1905 consists of eighty-three leaves (printed one side only) of the calendar of duties and services to be performed daily throughout the year, and a new "Supplement to the Staff-Kalendar," of sixty-two pages. This part is printed in reverse, so that it appears at first glance to be bound upside down. It contains some enlarged "Regulations relating to boys," on which we commented last year; Desk notices; Rules for stamping MSS.; Rules for the foliating of MSS.; Scheme for Kalendarizing Charters; Scheme for the new catalogue of Laudian Greek MSS.; Rules for the author-catalogues of printed books and printed music; and Addresses of the staff. Altogether a valuable and suggestive manual of rule and practice which is well worth a little study by librarians of all kinds.

As usual, the Bodley Boys are made the subject of a number of regulations, some of which are new, and calculated to impress the mere outsider with the conviction that, after all, they are merely human. Since last year they have been skylarking with the hot-water pipes, and this new rule also tells against their title to angelic attributes—"No bullying, or assumption of authority by one boy over another, will be tolerated. . . ." A new series of "Special study prizes" has been sanctioned by the curators, and in connection with this, and otherwise, the librarian offers to advise the boys as to their studies. This year prizes are offered for essays and general proficiency in "The Elements of the science of language." This plan of interesting the junior staff,

and training them is likely to have excellent results, and it is highly probable that, before long, the Bodley Boys may become formidable rivals to holders of the L. A. Professional Certificates for municipal librarianships. Already we hear of invasions of the municipal field by Bodley Boys, who are giving great satisfaction, and it is just possible that, by the excellence and soundness of his training, Mr. Nicholson will succeed in doing good work in raising the standard of attainment for Public Library positions.



THE NEW A.L.A. CATALOGUE.

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LIBRARY of Congress. A.L.A. Catalogue, 8,000 volumes for a popular library, with notes. 1904. Prepared by the New York State Library and the Library of Congress under the auspices of the American Library Association Publishing Board. Editor, Melvil Dewey, . . . Associate Editors, May Seymour, Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf. Part 1.—Classed. Part 2.—Dictionary, Washington, Government Printing Office, October, 1904. 8°, 9½", pp. 404 (Classed portion), 486 (Dictionary portion). Price complete in cloth 50 cents, in paper 25 cents.

This somewhat chaotic title-page hides the latest effort of the American Library Association to supply a select list of books suitable for popular libraries. It is considerably larger than the first issue of 1893, and it is not only much more valuable, because more modern, but also on account of its useful series of annotations. Practically every entry is annotated in the classed portion, and brief analyticals are given wherever necessary. Prices and publishers are given, and symbols are used to indicate the character of many of the books, apart from the notes—P=popular treatment; R=readable; Rf=reference; S=scholarly, by a recognized authority; Y=for young readers. The arrangement is according to the decimal classification in the classed part; but a synopsis of the expansive system is also given in part 2, and both notations are attached to entries in the dictionary catalogue. The percentage of books in each main class has been altered in some respects, as may be seen by the following note:—

	1893.	1904.
General Works	4 ½%	1 9 ½%
Philosophy	2 ½%	1 9 ½%
Religion	4 ½%	4 2 ½%
Sociology	8 ½%	8 ½%
Language	2 ½%	1 6 ½%
Natural Science	7 ½%	6 2 ½%
Useful Arts	5 ½%	6 ½%
Fine Arts	4 ½%	4 7 ½%
Literature	14 ½%	13 4 ½%
Fiction	16 ½%	16 3 ½%
History	15 ½%	13 3 ½%
Travel	8 ½%	9 1 ½%
Biography	12 ½%	13 5 ½%

The notes are taken from many sources, and in most cases the authority is mentioned. Larned's "Literature of American Literature," and Baker's "Guide to the best fiction" are largely drawn upon, and it is some satisfaction to find that there is thus something English about the book. Naturally the American element is very strong, and to most British librarians a large proportion of the books entered will be unknown. As a series of suggestions for book-selection the catalogue is of the highest value, and every British library would do well to purchase several copies for cataloguing and other purposes. In one or two respects the book shows up rather weakly. The Dewey classification again reveals its illogical structure in the separation of Language and Literature, and the provision of more than one place for closely-related topics. The arbitrary divisions "Fine Arts" and "Useful Arts" contain all kinds of incongruous classifications, and in many respects it must be said that the selection is exceedingly bad. For instance at 780, History of Music, the only general work is Hunt's "concise" school book. Surely, there are dozens of books superior in every respect to this little text-book? The separation of biographical works by entering some at Literature 822, and some at History 928, without references, is very confusing. Shakespeare appears at 822 English Drama, but not at History-Biography (Literature) 928, although other English and Foreign dramatists appear there. But it is unnecessary and perhaps ungrateful to examine too closely the compilation of such a useful "first aid" in book-selection—especially after having commended it!—and we therefore heartily recommend the book to the notice of British Libraries.



COMMERCIAL LIBRARY CATALOGUING.

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CATALOGUE of the principal English books in circulation at Mudie's Select Library . . . January, 1905. Price 1s. 6d. pp. xvi. + 666.

A Catalogue of modern English literature. Being a selection of the best known works circulated by Boot's Book-lover's Library, with which is also embodied a guide to popular works of fiction. 1905. Price 1s. 6d. pp. xx. + 842.

It is somewhat refreshing to meet with so much evidence of the rapid progress of catalogue-annotation and classification as is afforded by the two catalogues of commercial subscription libraries now under notice. For a considerable period the old Clerkenwell Public Library "Class Guides" and "Quarterly Guides" were the only specimens of advanced cataloguing in England, and their appearance was hailed, in some quarters, as something quite revolutionary and uncalled for. Now, all kinds of libraries are coming into line, and it is a good sign to find

commercial libraries imitating the more scientific and useful methods of the Public Libraries. The catalogue issued by Messrs. Mudie is compiled by Mr. H. G. Parsons, who was the pioneer of this kind of helpful compilation in commercial libraries, and consists of subject indexes, a dictionary catalogue of non-fiction, a title, author and class catalogue of fiction, and various other useful features. The classification of novels in Part 3, under numerous historical, topographical, and topical heads forms an exceedingly useful supplement to the works of Baker and Nield, and has been carefully revised and augmented by Mr. Parsons since the last issue.

The catalogue of the Book-lovers' Library is new to us, and it differs in some respects from that of Mudie. While its non-fictional part is arranged as a dictionary catalogue, it makes no period divisions as in Mudie. On the other hand, the fiction section is studded with annotations, many of which are taken from Mr. Baker's "Guide to the Best Fiction." Owing, no doubt, to the size of their stock, Mudie's do not indulge in annotations. Both catalogues afford an object-lesson for many of the more backward municipal libraries of the country.



THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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THE December *Library Journal* is the annual conference number, and forms an imposing volume of 280 pages. This year it gains in interest from the fact that the St. Louis Conference was international in everything but name. The first three papers, by Messrs. Crunden, Biagi, and Axon, were read in connection with the Library Section of the Congress of Arts and Sciences, and deal with the library as a factor in life. They are the only contributions to library apologetics read at the Conference. Mr. Herbert Putnam's presidential address opens with a brief review of previous meetings, and of recent library history. Then speaking of the librarian himself, and of the scant measure of personal fame meted out to him, he says: "If in the past the fame of a librarian, to endure, must have been gained either for some unusual personal trait, or achievement in some outside field, in the future it is likely to be still more so, for the modern library is an elaborate organization, requiring in its chief rather the general administrator than the personal interpreter. The consummate administrator is supposed to be he who renders the organisation independent of himself. How, then, can his personality stand out distinct, or his mere name endure? He has put himself into the institution. In proportion as it succeeds he becomes anonymous." A paper by Mr. Henry Bond, entitled "Some Features of Recent Library Practice in Great Britain," deals with book-selection, classification, cataloguing, distribution of books, privileges to readers, and bulletins, and is of special interest in England. In his opinion, the curious lack of classification in English libraries is due to the present popularity of the

indicator ; "with the growth of the desire for close classification would come the waning of the indicator. . . . The indicator, of course, would try to adjust itself to the new conditions, but we think that its attempt at adjustability would be the beginning of its disfavour." Of open access he says : "Despite our conservatism, and the consequently slow growth of open access, many of us feel that it is a progressive movement which will ultimately, but not soon, predominate, and this because it is in keeping with the general desire for greater freedom, in harmony with the almost universal *zeitgeist*." The increase in the use of bulletins he considers the most remarkable and most widespread development, and in his opinion "to have its own bulletin is to give a library a fresh lease of life." The next paper is another British one. "Library Extension Work in Great Britain," by Mr. L. Stanley Jast, deals with "those activities of the library which spring from an extension or enlargement of our idea of what we may term in the strict and traditional sense the library 'field.'" "Undoubtedly the most prominent item in library extension work in Great Britain is the lecture. The value of the lecture, as an advertisement of the contents of the library, has long been recognised." Unfortunately, lack of lecture-room accommodation has prevented many libraries from instituting such courses. Another development in extension work is the library reading, "based upon the idea that just as you can popularize books by talking about them, so you can attain the same end by reading from them. Such readings may be all from a single work or from a number of works on a single subject or by a single author." Mr. Jast also touches upon book exhibitions, and enters a plea for the popularizing of the bibliography of special subjects among likely readers. Mr. J. J. Ogle contributes a brief paper on library legislation in the British Isles. Mr. H. D. Roberts writes on "Training for Librarians in Great Britain." He divides his subject into three parts, Examinations, Summer Schools, and Technical and Correspondence Classes. His treatment of the matter is purely historical, and he ends with an examination of the present conditions. "Library Work with Children in Great Britain," by Mr. John Ballinger, is a concise statement of the situation. Although up to the present the work has been done by enthusiasts here and there, he believes that the Education Act of 1902 will change this. Mr. Walter Powell, in his paper, "Book Production in Great Britain," inveighs against the bad paper and binding characterizing modern publications. The printing, methods of publication, prices, and "fashions and crazes" also come in for notice. Dr. Guido Biagi, of Florence, supplies a "Note on Italian Library Affairs." According to him, one of the great needs of library work in Italy is a classifying or grading of the libraries. At present, the government libraries "are obliged to perform a double task—to be a laboratory for scholarly work, and at the same time to be an educational library for young students." A striking example of co-operative work is given by Haakon Nyhuus in his paper on "The Organization of State Supported Libraries in Norway." He describes the whole movement for the consolidation of the 750 small independent libraries of Norway from

its commencement to the present time, when practically everything is done by co-operation—book-selection, binding, cataloguing, administration and support. A. S. Steenberg reviews "Recent Progress in the Popular Libraries of Denmark." The libraries of Denmark are without reading-rooms; "they give out books for home-reading, and these books for the most part are fiction; they are open only a few hours every week, and have no trained librarians." "The Research Libraries" of the same country are dealt with by H. O. Lang. They correspond to the State libraries of other countries. "The Research Libraries of Sweden" are described by Dr. Aksel Andersson. Dr. Edouard Reyer, of Vienna, outlines the library movement in Austria, and other sketches of national library history are:—New Zealand, by Mr. Herbert Baillie; Guatemala, by Mr. L. D. Kingsland; and Chile, by Mr. F. A. Bennett. Mr. Ernest Cushing Richardson, in a paper on "International Bibliography," deals with joint-cataloguing. In his opinion, the Prussian Gesamt-Katalog and the International Catalogue of Scientific Literature are the best illustrations of co-operative bibliography. These are described in subsequent papers by Messrs. Richard Fick and Cyrus Adler. Other bibliographical papers are: "The Concilium Bibliographicum in Zurich," by Mr. H. H. Field; "The International Institute of Bibliography," by M. Henri La Fontaine; "The Swedish Catalog of Accessions," by Dr. Aksel Andersson; "On a Bibliography of Public Documents," by Adelaide R. Hasse; and "Recent National Bibliography in the United States," by R. R. Bowker. Two papers on Classification appear; one by Professor Dr. Rudolf Focke on the general theory, and the other on present tendencies by Mr. Charles Martel. W. C. Lane sums up the problems of modern catalogue practice as: How to establish a just relation between subject-catalogue and bibliography; how to improve our subject-catalogue; what form of subject catalogue is best; how to make use of printed analytical cards to the best advantage; how to make the best possible use of printed cards from the Library of Congress, and how to extend the work on similar lines; how to obtain international uniformity; how to get foreign Government libraries to print catalogue cards; how far libraries should go in keeping on file cards for books in other libraries. "Annotation" is dealt with by W. I. Fletcher, who is in favour of description rather than criticism or appraisal. Mrs. Fairchild brings up the rear with a paper on "Women in American Libraries." The rest of the number is occupied by the reports of various committees, and by a full report of the proceedings.

The January number of the *Library Journal* opens with a list of "Reference Books of 1904," by Alice B. Kroeger, supplementing the A.L.A. "Guide." Mr. W. W. Bishop contributes "Some Considerations on the Cost of Cataloguing." "The question as to how much it costs, or should cost, to put a book on the shelves of a library has been raised again and again. Very little progress seems to have been made in arriving at a definite conclusion in the matter—largely, it would seem, because of a diversity of processes and practices which renders

discussion well-nigh hopeless." The largest items of cost are the obtaining of books, classification, and cataloguing, and by examining these items closely, Mr. Bishop attempts to arrive at some definite ratio. With the new year, the journal is reduced in price to \$4. The title-page and index to volume 29 are issued with this number.

"Recent English Purchases at the British Museum" is the title of article by Mr. A. W. Pollard in the January *Library*. The writer takes as his text the show-case of recently-acquired English books printed before 1640, and by describing volumes of note in detail, giving extracts and bibliographical descriptions, he makes his subject highly interesting. Henry R. Plomer contributes a description, with extracts, of the "Oxinden Letters." "This collection of letters belonged to Henry Oxinden of Barham, who had the good or the ill fortune to live in one of the most stirring periods of English history"—the time of the Stuarts and the Restoration. "Illustrating as it does the life of a country gentleman of the seventeenth century, and chronicling the events that preceded the civil war, the correspondence of Henry Oxinden contains much that is interesting." Recent Foreign literature is noted by Elizabeth Lee. There is a brief anonymous description of the Library Conference in St. Louis. John Rivers writes pleasantly on "Shakespeare à la Française," and J. A. Herbert examines the question of "The Authorship of the 'Alphabetum Narrationum.'" In reply to inquiries, several well-known public librarians give their opinions as to the feasibility of Mr. Jast's suggestion for the formation of a cataloguing bureau for libraries.

The *Library Assistant* for February contains an article by W. C. B. Sayers, entitled, "Is Affiliation with the Library Association Desirable?" The writer sets forth the matter very clearly and concisely, and adopts a healthy attitude of consideration towards the "august body in Hanover Square." He concludes: "Affiliated or separate, I wish someone had the courage to make an onslaught on the name 'Library Assistants' Association.' It suggests 'The Federated Shop Assistants' Association,' or some other equally unprofessional body. 'Society of Assistant Librarians' would, I imagine, be an infinitely preferable name." With which we cordially agree. There is also an article by James Ross on "Branch Libraries."

The January *Library Association Record* is a local collection number. "Local Collections: What Should be Collected and How to Obtain Materials," by W. H. K. Wright, is the first article, and it is followed by one on the "Classification and Arrangement of Local Collections," contributed by R. T. Richardson. These two papers together form a very useful manual of local work. A more specialized branch of the subject is dealt with by T. Duckworth in "Local and County Photographic Surveys." He explains the idea of the survey, and defines its scope, treats of its working detail and management, and concludes with an appeal that it should be housed in the public Library.

The January issue of *Public Libraries*, curiously enough, also deals with local collections. "Public Libraries and Local History," by B. A. Finney, deals with What to preserve; collections of pictures; and the museum. Caroline McIlvaine writes on "Museums in Their Relation to Libraries." In her opinion, the museum is a powerful influence in awakening interest in the printed page, but to fulfil its purpose properly must be organised on some definite scheme, and not be a mere collection of curiosities. G. H. Eustis supplies some "Hints on Library Accounts," more especially for the use of small libraries, and gives examples. "The Current Year's Best Books in Sociology for a Small Library" are analyzed by Grace Miller, but her selection is wholly American. Alice B. Kroeger makes some suggestive remarks on the arrangement of entries in catalogues. There are many debatable points. For example, the rule "nothing before something" is almost peculiar to library catalogues, dictionaries, gazetteers, encyclopædias, all being alphabetised throughout the word or words. Thus in a catalogue, New York comes before Newark, but in nearly all other books of reference the position is reversed. Other points, such as the arrangement under authors, and the arrangement of ä, ö, etc., are dealt with. There are other short articles on "Books for the Blind at St. Louis," "On the Need of an American Bibliographical Institute," and the usual notes and departments. The title-page and index to volume 9 is included.



LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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[*Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.*]

Barry, Cardiff.—The dispute between the contractors for the Public Library Buildings and the Council has been decided by arbitration. Messrs. Hutchinson and Payne, the architects, required that a large part of the building should be pulled down, and the foundations carried to a specified depth, but, from the report in the *South Wales Echo*, we gather that the arbitrator has decided on less drastic, though very extensive, underpinning and other structural work.

Belfast.—£15,000, presented by Dr. Carnegie for the purpose, enable the Corporation to proceed with the erection of three branch libraries suitable sites having been secured. Sir Thomas Drew having consented to act as assessor, the plans submitted by Belfast architects (to whom the competition was limited) were laid before him, the result being that Messrs. Graeme-Watt and Tulloch have been appointed architects to the three buildings. The *Belfast News-Letter* of February 8th gave pictures of the three elevations. We know nothing of the planning adopted, but Sir Thomas Drew having highly commended it, we have no doubt of its excellence. With regard to the elevations, if we may

venture to criticise, we would say the South Branch Library is too much of the usual type to make remark necessary, other than that it looks very "official." The North Branch Library is smaller, and far more "inviting," a qualification of no mean value. The West Branch Library attracts us still more; though, presumably, a larger building, there is a look of solid comfort about it suggestive of the hospitality of Georgian days, but we appeal to the architects not to spoil their fine front by the large-lettered inscription, "Branch Library," as shown in the picture.

Bootle.—The system of loaning books to schools is advancing. The sum of £50 has been granted by the education authority of the borough, who have also provided an assistant to deliver books in a covered hand-cart to the schools, and arrange exchanges.

Brechin.—A number of books in Braille type, for the use of blind folk, has been purchased by the Public Library Committee. It is sad to think that such a step should be necessary (as we do not doubt) in so small a centre.

Cardiff.—The family of the late Alderman Sanders recently presented a marble bust of that true friend of education to the Cardiff Public Library. The late Alderman was for many years an active member of the Library Committee, and, as his son, Mr. C. F. Sanders, said, was devoted through life to the welfare of such institutions.

Ceylon.—The celebrated Pettah Library at Colombo, established seventy-five years ago, has found a new home in new buildings, and gives promise of an old age of vigour. Sir West Ridgeway, to whom the library owes much, is pleasantly held in remembrance by a portrait, unveiled at the opening ceremonies on December 21st.

Criccieth.—The 1st of this month was fixed upon for the ceremony of opening the Public Library, recently completed, at this little North Wales watering place.

Dublin.—The Kevin Street Library is progressing towards completion and will shortly be ready for its 4,000 or more volumes, a large portion of which will consist of scientific and reference books suitable for the students of the adjoining Technical Schools. The newspaper and magazine room is already patronised to its full capacity. The Thomas Street branch library possesses a feature not common to Public Libraries in the provision of a room for chess, draughts, and other quiet games, smoking being allowed. Mr. John P. Whelan's scheme of loaning suitable books to the juveniles through the medium of their teachers is a decided success, some sixty schools taking advantage of the plan.

Eastbourne.—Should Dr. Carnegie be able to arrange to be at this popular resort in May, the Council desire to present him with the freedom of the Borough, in recognition of his donation of £10,000 to the Public Library. Mr. J. H. Hardcastle, the librarian, is able to give unquestionable evidence that the library is a decided success.

Ilkeston.—The lending department of the Public Library was duly opened on February 4th, when Councillor W. Shakespeare was the first to be served with a volume.

Islington.—The late Mr. Bold's extensive collection of books, consisting of about 4,500 volumes in good condition, is to be purchased for £275, for the new library. Matters connected with two branch libraries are well in hand.

Kensington.—The Central Library has come into possession of a crayon portrait of Thackeray, executed by Goodwyn Lewis. The picture is of considerable value and interest, and will be exhibited in the reading-room.

Kettering.—Dr. Carnegie has given gratification to the Council by expressing his satisfaction with the building erected for a Public Library, and has paid some extra costs incurred.

Llangollen.—This most picturesque of towns, nestling in the deep valley of the river Dee, possesses a library which it owes largely to the efforts of Sir Theodore Martin. The trustees of this library are willing to hand it over to the Council, should that body decide to erect a Public Library.

Loughborough.—*The Nottingham Daily Guardian* of February 6th gave a block illustrating the new Public Library building. We congratulate Messrs. Barrowcliff and Allcock, the architects, on the general appearance, and have no doubt the interior arrangements are equally good.

Lowestoft.—The Clapham Road branch library is to be opened this month. Alderman A. G. Notley, the honorary secretary of the Lowestoft Public Library is to be congratulated on the continued success of the institution, in which he takes so active an interest.

Manchester.—Mr. Passmore Edwards is about to present to the Public Library a replica of the bust of the late William Ewart which he gave to the Westminster Library in Great Smith Street. An illustration of this admirable piece of sculpture was given in our last issue.

Morecambe.—Though Mr. J. R. Birkett, the Mayor, offered to give a site for a library, the poll of the burgesses shows that Dr. Carnegie's offer of £4,000 for a building, on the usual conditions, is not acceptable—at present.

Paisley.—In January we noted the important additions to the Public Library buildings, but omitted to state that the cost of the works, fully £7,000, has been defrayed by Mr. James Coats, the son of the late Sir Peter Coats, the donor of the main building.

Poplar.—A capital illustration of the new Cubitt Town Public Library was given in *The Surveyor* of January 20th, together with plans of the ground and first-floor arrangements.

Rugby.—The Public Library here is in course of a much-needed enlargement. The reading-room is to be increased from 31 ft. × 33 ft. to 50 ft. × 33 ft. A new reference library (23 ft. × 20 ft.) is being added at the back, and a new entrance lobby (28 ft. × 13 ft.) with staircase in front. The lending department will be enlarged by the addition of the former reference library and entrance lobby. The cost will be defrayed by a loan of £1,500, which will be repaid in 30 years by an endowment income of about £100 which the library enjoys in addition to that derived from the library rate.

Sutton-in-Ashfield.—Good friends, anxious to liquidate the debt on the Victoria Public Library (built in 1898–99), last month organized a bazaar on a scale likely to aid considerably in the reduction of the arrears, which were about £340. We hear that £250 was raised.

Tipton.—We announced last month the commencement of building operations for the Public Library, but it appears that there is a difficult hitch in the progress of the matter, as Dr. Carnegie objects to the librarian's house being included in the library building. The house will therefore have to be provided in the other part of the public buildings.

Wellington, Salop.—The newspaper and general reading-room in the Public Library has been open to readers for some time, and about a month since the whole building was made available. The services of the lending department are already well appreciated by the borrowing public.

Wolverhampton.—Dissolution of the long-established Wolverhampton Library threatens this useful institution, unless more subscriptions are forthcoming. A ladies' committee has been formed to canvass for the necessary support.

Mr. Gervase C. Briars, Senior Assistant, York Public Library, has been appointed Chief Librarian of the new Carnegie Public Library, Atherton. Mr. Briars was formerly Assistant Librarian at the Public Libraries of Sale and Stockport, and takes with him twelve years' experience.

Mr. James Coats, of Auchendrane, Paisley, has done, and is doing, so much for libraries in towns, and even small villages, of the farthest N.B., that he bids fair to be a worthy follower of the great Carnegie. It would be interesting to possess a list of the places which have already benefited by Mr. Coats' generosity.

Mr. G. F. Hilken, the librarian of Bethnal Green Public Library, has our deep sympathy in the bereavement he has sustained by the sudden death of his son Francis, who assisted in the library, where he was seized with illness, and expired from heart failure.

Mr. Richard Holmes, the librarian of Windsor Castle, was on January 29th, invested with the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Royal Victoria Order. We wish Sir Richard long-continued health to enjoy his new distinction.

Mr. H. J. Mathews, M.A., has been the recipient of an engrossed and illuminated copy of the resolution of the Brighton Town Council thanking him for his long-continued gratuitous help and interest in the Public Library. Mr. Mathews, once assistant librarian at the Bodleian Library, gave Brighton many years of his life in forming, developing and cataloguing its now fine library, to which he presented over 2,000 valuable books.

Mrs. Rylands continues to enrich the John Rylands Library at Manchester with valuable gifts. Space will not allow us to mention her recent gifts in detail, but we may refer to one item—the collection of hymns made by the late John Rylands, in thirty-four large folio volumes.

Mr. H. Tapley Soper, city librarian, recently delivered a lecture in the Art Gallery of the Royal Albert Memorial, Exeter, on "The Making of Books." Aided by a number of lantern slides, Mr. Soper dealt in an informing manner with books, book-making, the printing press, and the manufacture of paper.

Mr. Alfred J. Taylor having completed thirty years' service in the Public Library at Hobart Town, and having seen through many details of the plans of the new buildings, felt free to accept the well-earned four months' holiday offered him by the trustees.

Mr. F. Peplow of the Camberwell Public Libraries, has been appointed first librarian of the Metropolitan Borough of Deptford. He was trained at Darwen, in Lancashire, and has acted as district librarian at Dulwich for some years.

Mr. W. L. Coltman, Senior Assistant at Woolwich Public Libraries, has been appointed first Librarian of Southall. He was trained at Derby and Woolwich.



THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

Cervantes Saavedra (Miguel de). The Ingenious gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha. [1605—1615.] London: G. Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 6½". 2 vols. Price 4s. net.

A reprint, in the York Library, of Motteux's translation (1712), with Life of Cervantes by Lockhart, the preliminary verses and notes.

Cervantes Saavedra (Miguel de). The Adventures of Don Quixote de la Mancha. London: T. Nelson & Sons, 1902. 8°, 6½", pp. 784. Price 2s. 6d. net.

Another reprint on thin paper, in the New Century Library, without notes or the preliminary matter.

In view of the recent celebration of the first publication of "Don Quixote," it is desirable to direct attention to these cheap and handy editions of this great fictional classic. Both editions are well printed and nicely produced in every respect.

Coleridge (Samuel T.). The Table talk and Omniana of S. T. Coleridge, arranged and edited by T. Ashe. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. xxii. + 446. Price 2s. net.

A series of reflections written day-by-day in 1822—34, on all kinds of subjects; together with a similar series entitled Omniana (1812—1836).

This collected edition of Coleridge's *obiter dicta* was first published in Bohn's Standard Library in 1884, and is now reissued as a volume of the York Library, in a convenient and attractive form.

Emerson (Ralph W.) Works. Vol. 4. Miscellaneous pieces. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. xii. + 462. Price 2s. net.

A series of miscellaneous essays collected and revised by George Sampson, and now first published together in one volume. The essays are on such subjects as Milton, War, Landor, Slavery, Thoreau, Character, Plutarch, Scott, etc.

An interesting feature of this volume is the rough classified list of poetry which Emerson included in his anthology entitled "Parnassus."

Farmer (John S.) and W. E. **Henley**. A dictionary of slang and colloquial English, abridged from the seven-volume work, entitled *Slang and its analogues*. London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. viii. + 534. Price 7s. 6d. net.

This condensed edition of Farmer and Henley's *Slang dictionary* may be described as a genteel version fitted for ordinary public use. It is necessarily very much abridged, but contains most of the principal slang words used in the past and in the present, and forms an exceedingly useful and handy work for reference library purposes. The illustrative quotations which distinguish the larger work are omitted, but a useful dated list of dictionaries from which extracts have been made is prefixed.

Gwynn (Stephen). Thomas Moore. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. vi. + 204. Price 2s. net.

Biography and critical estimate of Thomas Moore, the Irish poet (1779-1852), in the *English Men of Letters* series. Contains a bibliography of first editions.

In this brief and interesting record of Moore's life, Mr. Gwynn has rather magnified his importance as an *Irish* national poet, and somewhat overlooked his more legitimate claim to be a minor figure in English literature. The nationality of the "Irish Melodies," for example, exists chiefly in the music and some of the titles of the songs. There is little of the Celtic fervency or flavour about any of these lyrics, and they are much more appropriately English than Irish. The book is nevertheless a handy and well-written guide to the record of Moore, and is another useful addition to the lives of literary worthies enshrined in the *English Men of Letters*.

Melville (Lewis). *The Thackeray country*. London: A. & C. Black, 1905. 8°, 8", pp. xii. + 224. *Ill.*, *map*. Price 6s.

An account of Thackeray's homes, schools and haunts, chiefly in London, but with chapters on his life in Paris and America.

The Thackeray country, as pictured and described in this book, is principally London, and is devoted more to the topography of Thackeray himself than to the localities of his novels. It is an interesting addition to the *Pilgrimage Series* of Messrs. Black, and raises a somewhat perplexing question as to its correct place in any system of classification. Most books on pilgrimages to the homes and haunts of literary or other eminent men, present the problem in an acute form as to whether such works are biography, topography or literary history.

Shore (W. T.) *Dickens*. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1904. 8°, 6", pp. 84. *Ports.*, *illus.*. Price 1s. net. [No INDEX.]

A condensed, but interesting life of Charles Dickens, the novelist, forming one of Bell's *Miniature Series of Great Writers*. The chief facts of Dickens' life are carefully recorded, and lists are appended of his works, and books about him.

Synge (M. B.) *The Story of the world for the children of the British Empire*. Edinburgh: William Blackwood and Sons, 1903-04. 8°, 7½". *Ill.*, *maps*. 5 vols. Price 8s. 1d. (Prices vary from 1s. 4d. to 2s. per volume).

- Book 1. On the shores of the Great Sea. From the days of Abraham to the birth of Christ.
 „ 2. The discovery of new worlds. From A.D. 4 to the 16th Century.
 „ 3. The Awakening of Europe. 1520-1745.
 „ 4. The Struggle for sea power. 1745-1815.
 „ 5. The Growth of the British Empire. 1815-1903.

A useful juvenile book, whose contents are sufficiently set forth in the above abstract.

Verlaine (Paul). Poems, selected and translated, with an introduction by Ashmore Wingate. London: The Walter Scott Publishing Co., Ltd. [1905]. 8°, 5½", pp. lxiv. + 200. Price 1s.

A selection from *Poèmes Saturniens*; *Fêtes Galantes*; *La Bonne Chanson*; *Romances sans Paroles*; and *Les Uns et les Autres*.

A useful little edition of a famous French poet, whose works in any form, are seldom to be found in English Public Libraries.

Whibley (Leonard), *ed.* A Companion to Greek studies. Cambridge: University Press, 1905. 8°, 9", pp. xxx. + 672. *Illust., map.* Price 18s. net.

1. Geography, Fauna and Flora. By H. F. Tozer and H. B. Tristram.
2. History. By R. D. Hicks.
3. Literature, Philosophy, Science. By Sir R. Jebb, R. D. Hicks and Jas. Gow.
4. Art: Architecture; prehistoric art; sculpture; painting; vase painting; terracottas; engraved gems; and music. By various writers.
5. Mythology and Religion. By E. A. Gardner.
6. Public Antiquities: Constitutions; law; finance; population; slavery; colonies; commerce and industry; measures and weights; money; war; ships; the calendar. By various writers.
7. Private Antiquities: Relationships; births, etc.; education; books and writing; women; dress; daily life; house and furniture; medicine. By various writers.
8. Criticism and Interpretation; Dialects; epigraphy; palæography; textual criticism; metre; history of scholarships. By various writers.

This valuable and comprehensive guide to the study of every department of Ancient Greek life, thought and accomplishment is one of the best works of the kind produced in recent years. It is well-indexed, admirably arranged, and covers every point which is likely to confront the student of Greek literature and antiquities. It is essentially a library reference book, and should be on the shelves of every reference department in the kingdom. With such a detailed list of contents as we have furnished above, it is not necessary to describe the scope of such an excellent students' companion.

MUSIC.

Dryden (Forest). The Repository of song gems. Musical arrangements edited by J. W. Cowie. Edinburgh: R. W. Pentland [c. 1904]. 4°, 12¼". Price 2s. net per part to subscribers.

This is part 1 of a work designed to occupy 12 parts or 3 volumes, and to rescue and preserve in a handy form a number of the best, but less known, Scottish, Irish and English songs. Some of the settings of Scott's lyrics not usually known are included in the part

before us, together with a number of other good songs. We can recommend this collection to the notice of Public Libraries possessing musical departments.

The Rutland Magazine and county historical review. No. 1, vol. 2, January, 1905. Illustrated Quarterly. Uppingham. Price 1s. 6d.

So many local magazines have been doomed to early graves that one is forcibly reminded of the epitaph on a baby—

"If thus early I am done for
What on earth was I begun for?"

No. 1 of volume 2 of the *Rutland Magazine* demonstrates that this publication, at least, is not "done for," but, on the contrary, is well filled with matter of living interest. Its contents display an admixture of subjects ancient and modern; some (such, for example, as the article relating to George Villiers, second Duke of Buckingham) appeal to a wider circle than the Rutland public. We note incidentally that Mr. G. Phillips has recently read a paper on Rutland authors and printers which we hope to see in print. This subject of local printers is one of interest, as may be judged from Mr. Peddie's article in the *Library World*, September, 1904.

We congratulate those connected with the *Rutland Magazine* on its success, and re-echo our wish, expressed when No. 1 appeared, that it may find a circulation beyond the county bounds.

Roebuck (George E.) and Wm. B. **Thorne**. A Primer of library practice for junior assistants. London & New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 159. Price 1s. 6d. net.

This little book covers so wide a range of subjects that to have issued it without an index is almost a crime. The absence of an index is the only fault we have to find with this useful compilation. Though intended, as the "foreword" modestly indicates, only for junior assistants, the reviewer, long past the junior stages of life's journey, has found matter of interest from beginning to end, and hopes every librarian will see that his junior "subs," at least, have a copy and study it.

A chapter on the establishment of libraries opens the subject, then follow organization, classification and cataloguing (a capital chapter introductory to the standard works on these subjects), methodology (including such matters as repairs to books, binding, reports, &c.), extension work (reading circles, lectures, information, &c.), the library assistant himself (eleven pages containing advice which every young library assistant should follow, and inculcating that *esprit de corps* which is so essential to the easy working of a public institution), and finally, fourteen pages of Appendices useful for reference.

There are many quotable paragraphs in the volume, but space forbids their insertion here; one, however, is too valuable to be omitted:—

"it is imperative that assistants should do their best to acquire the polite affability which breaks down many of the barriers so noticeable in modern institutions of various kinds. A studied politeness costs nothing, whilst its good effects are far-reaching."

Words which, in these days of hurry, push and brusqueness, may well be laid to heart, and not by library assistants only!

LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

o o o

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE fourth sessional meeting of the Library Association was held at 20, Hanover Square, on Monday, 20th February, when the following papers were read—

Some aspects of the work of Henry Bradshaw, by C. F. Newcombe, Camberwell.

The golden age of book illustration, by R. K. Dent, Aston Manor.

The papers were briefly discussed and the readers were thanked for their interesting contributions to the proceedings. At the conclusion of the formal business, Mr. Chennell (Willesden) raised the question of outside influences being directed towards the determination of library appointments, and objected to the qualifications for librarianships demanded in certain recent advertisements, which he seemed to think were dictated by outside agencies interested in one set of ideas and calculated to exclude many deserving candidates. A discussion ensued, and it was pointed out that unless some very definite complaint were laid before the Council of the L.A., it would be impossible for that body to consider the matter.

NORTHERN COUNTIES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held at South Shields on Wednesday, 29th March, by invitation of the Public Library Committee.

The Summer Meeting will take place at Workington early in July, and any members of the Library Association who desire to attend will be cordially welcomed. As Workington is in the vicinity of the Lake District, arrangements will be made to hold the meeting on a Monday in order that members may take advantage of a week-end visit to the Lakes.

It is expected that Canon Rawnsley will take part in the proceedings.

THE PSEUDONYMS.

THE meeting before last of this body was held at the usual place, when No Name occupied the chair, and the time and attention of the meeting with a disquisition on

“THINGS AS THEY ARE.”

This evoked a very lively discussion, graced by numerous personalities which cannot be repeated in a respectable journal, and for this reason it is considered advisable, by way of a change, to suppress the debate, and print a part of the paper.

"Why inventionitis should attack the profession with such severity was beyond the Nameless One's philosophy, but he believed it to be a fact that no librarian existed who had not, at some time or other, invented something. He had it on the authority of an eminent library furnisher that the inventions were never worth anything, and that, as a rule, they were only used in the library where they were invented, until the inventor got another job. He said that, on looking through the Roll of Fame of Librarians, it seemed to him that his fellow professionals did all things successfully except mind their own business. The maxim: 'Mind your own business; and run your own business' had no place in their economy. Very frequently the maxim was turned inside out, and so became: Mind everybody else's business, and run everybody else's, while their own business goes to the dogs. Librarians were busy-bodies and unlimited information-mongers. He remembered a grand phrase which was drummed into his ears when he was young; 'the librarian is (or should be) a walking encyclopædia.' It was very satisfying to him in those early, happy days, to fancy himself a sort of pocket-edition encyclopædia. The librarian then was the Encyclopædia Britannica, the sub. Chambers's, while all the other assistants were, like himself, little pocket-edition encyclopædias, all paid by a beneficent Town Council to supply information *ad lib.* to the great Uneducated.

As a result of our omniscience, consider, for example, how vastly the efficiency of public education has increased since we have had to do with it. We have waltzed into schools and pointed out to the bewildered teachers, with due scorn, that they are actually guilty of the nefarious crime of teaching kiddies to read without providing something for them to read. And we bring the teachers to reason with a little lecture and a tea-fight, whilst all the little Pollies and Jackies crowd into the lecture room to hear the librarian talk on Haydn's "Dictionary of Dates." He asked the members to believe that the wash-basin in the corner and the tea in the adjoining room were *not* the attractions, but the lecture, the simple, fatherly language of the dear, kind gentleman with a mouth full of dates. The influence of all this upon national efficiency was stupendous. Not only had librarians tried schoolmastering with success, but they had had thrust upon them by municipal authorities the duties of curating and directing technical schools. Some absurd people suggested that librarians should be librarians only; that local authorities should be educated up to the belief that librarianship was a calling to which a man must give best part of his thought and life if his library was to be a credit to the town. But any librarian worth his salt could curate. If a man can look into a book, and, by finding out what it is about, can classify it, then it follows that he can look into a museum specimen and classify that. As to picture galleries, we alone, of all public servants, were fitted to curate them. Think of our vast

experience in enamelling, our colour-schemes, our varnished tags. Surely people who spent their days cleaning and varnishing tags were to be trusted with the job of cleaning and varnishing pictures, which, after all, weren't half so finicking. As for running a technical school, any librarian could do that on his head. To show the company what a smart librarian was capable of doing, the Nameless One referred to a brother professional who directed the Higher Education of a Town, ran the technical school, Public Library, School of Music, and University Extension Society, besides filling in odd moments as teacher of mathematics. This man was a model public official. He directed and taught. No Name said he despaired of a profession which, as a rule, only went so far as to direct a school, and did not teach in it. Perhaps the Library Association would see to this point.

It followed that with librarians of such allround ability and energy, experts and "sich like" were not required to draw up literary guides. The librarian was alone able to do work of such vast and far-reaching importance. A time was fast approaching when annotative work, especially if directed by the Pseudonyms, would make books as scarce, he hoped, as vegetarians or British Israelites, and silly folk who spent all their spare pocket-money on circulars. In the coming age a man would only write a book for us to annotate, and we should take the place of the publishers, and fill the newspapers with announcements of this kind: "Rudyard Kipling's latest annotation, 10th million."

The lecturer considered it a kind of national misfortune that the printing and broadcast issue of circulars should be confined to one firm of librarians. The value of the circular as an advertising medium required only to be recognized to be appreciated. Imagine what a happy time we should have, if every librarian fired off a circular on every occasion in which he felt the slightest interest. Instead of a humdrum cycle of commonplace routine, our lives would be spent in the delightful sport of watching libel and slander actions in all parts of the country. It was the fashion now-a-days for the firm of librarians above-mentioned to intervene even in such paltry matters as appointments to librarianships, and if they did so, why not others? The gaiety of life would be enhanced; no bones would be broken; impertinent circulars would take the place of dull bulletins; annual conferences of librarians would be supplanted by sessional meetings at the Law Courts and the Old Bailey; and everyone would be entitled to deface and even remove his neighbour's landmark with as much freedom as the firm of librarians at present enjoying an unholy monopoly."

The lecturer concluded by stating that when the happy time came when universal lampooning became the vogue, he should retire, and enter the Police force, where, in all probability, both pay and status would be increased.



CORRESPONDENCE.

o o o

THE BURDEN OF NEWSROOMS.

To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.

DEAR SIR,—I regret that my response to Mr. Lockwood Huntley and "The Onlooker" was too late for your February issue, and shall be much obliged if you can afford space in your March number for this reply.

Both the contributors mentioned were evidently so sure of their ground that it is useless to hope that the man lives who may convert them to a reasonable view of the question.

Yet there are many of your readers who do not like subjects dished up in such a rough and ready fashion, who realize that Mr. Huntley made the most of the inefficient side of newsroom administration, utterly ignoring the fact that his tirade was more wounding to the reputation of some librarians than destructive to the cause of the newsroom.

There are newsrooms and newsrooms; they differ little in service but much in administration, and one can only conclude that there are some miserable newsrooms situated around Mr. Huntley's locality, wherever that may be.

If, in his original article, Mr. Huntley intended to call attention to the decadence of tone in some publications of to-day, he could have done so without bolstering up his remarks with a pen-picture of all known newsroom misuses rolled into one misleading account of an average newsroom scene.

Mr. Huntley would argue that the day of the newsroom has gone, but librarians are not yet by any means unanimous on that point, notwithstanding the authorities to which reference was made.

I deny that my response was an attempt to hush the criticism of the newsroom with a "cry of 'Peace' when there is no peace," and for proof I would refer to the fourth paragraph of my letter, which plainly admitted that misuse *is* made of the department; but not to such extent as we are asked to believe.

"The Onlooker" uses an argument which suggests more than he could have wished to disclose; his whole contribution was inconsistent, and ends with a tribute to the department which, in the first place, it openly denounces.

My inexperience of library matters, which was so gently hinted at, may prompt the opinion that newsrooms have never had the attention necessary to obtain full service, and that many are not properly looked after.

It is obvious that if you do not wish a particular class of persons to use the newsroom, you have only to keep them out.

Three causes should be kept in mind when this topic is under treatment—the wretched matter sometimes displayed in newsrooms, the

lack of co-ordination between the work of this department and that of the rest of the building, and the fact that few newsrooms have been subjected to experiment, that in most cases although nearly everything else has been adapted to present-day needs, newsrooms are still run on worn-out lines at a time when men have to be smart to gain their objects. Let us hope that the Newsroom Question will receive careful consideration; it affects the privileges of millions of readers annually, and he must be very sure of his arguments who would persuade the library world to part with the most popular section of our common service rather than endeavour to shape it to meet the requirements of the hour.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

St. George, Stepney, E.

GEO. ED. ROEBUCK.

February 10th, 1905.

COLOURS IN BOOKBINDING LEATHERS.

To the Editor of THE LIBRARY WORLD.

SIR,—In a recent publication, entitled "A Note on Bookbinding," by Douglas Cockerell, issued by Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son, it is stated that "As what are known as 'fancy shades,' and, indeed, absolute evenness of colour in all shades can only be got at present by the use of mineral acid, the range of colour may be somewhat limited, and such colours as are used may be somewhat uneven. It is felt that librarians will be glad to put up with these fancied defects in order to get leather that can be depended upon to last, with fair usage, as long as a book holds together."

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Yours faithfully,

M. CHAS. LAMB.

*(Member of Society of Arts' Bookbinding Committee,
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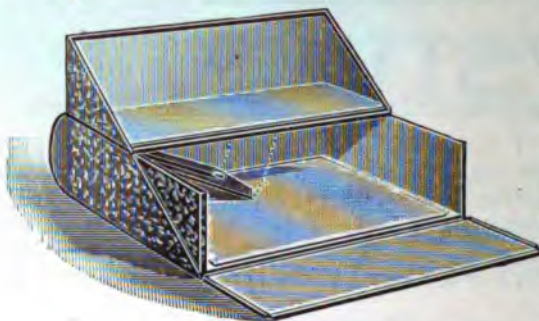
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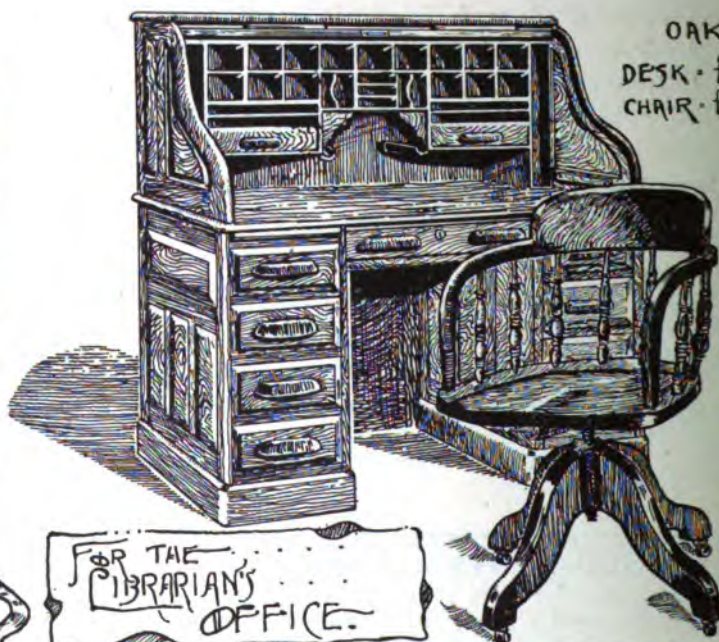
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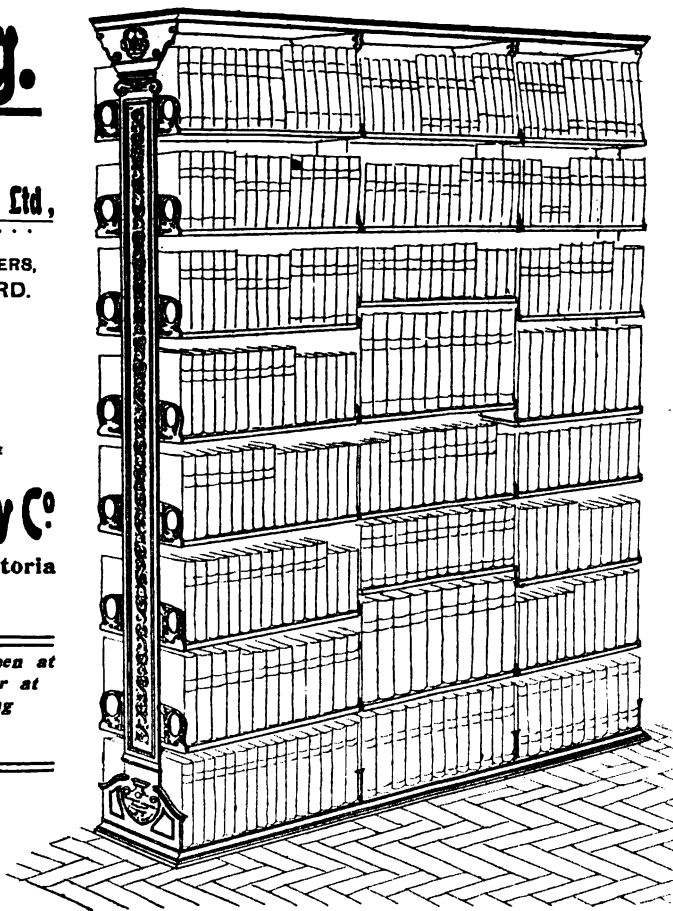


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The Library World.

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LIBRARY MAGAZINES: THEIR PREPARATION AND PRODUCTION.

By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS *and* JAMES D. STEWART, *Croydon Public Libraries.*

o o o

II.

FINANCIAL BASIS.

1. The next question to be considered is the capability of a library to issue a magazine. That many libraries will be unable to do so goes without saying. It is obvious that a library so cramped by want of funds as to be unable to keep its stock up to date or pay its librarian a respectable salary, is most decidedly incapable of issuing and supporting a magazine. It may be taken as a general rule that no library with an annual income of less than £1,000 should attempt it. Libraries having incomes below this amount can do much good work through the medium of the local press, but into this side of the matter it will be unnecessary to enter. Definite factors upon which to work are always valuable, and we find that 2 per cent. of the total income is the average amount expended by municipal Public Libraries publishing magazines of the required standard. A great part of this expenditure is, of course, recovered, but of that later. In working out this percentage, attention has been given to the book income and number of additions as well as to total income, and the result will be useful as giving an idea of likely expenditure without the need of laborious calculation.

2. Having settled whether or not a library is capable of issuing a magazine at all, the next point is to see that the style of the publication is in keeping with the institution. For example, the magazine of a library with an income of £5,000 should be considerably better in style of production than that of a library with an income of £2,000. It is only in style, however, that any difference should be noticeable; the excellence of the contents should be constant. Again, local conditions exercise no small influence on the matter to be published; the contents must be suitable and attractive to the *clientèle* of the library. As a consequence, the magazine of, say, the John Rylands Library would differ in this respect from that of an East-end of London library.

3. When the general policy as to style and class has been decided upon, the next question is that of size. Once a size has been adopted, it must be adhered to; consequently it is important that a convenient size be selected. It is manifestly unsuitable to issue the magazine in a form suggestive of a newspaper; and it is equally unsuitable to make it so small as to be insignificant. As we write, one awful example of unsuitability of size rises before us. A certain library—American—commenced to issue a bulletin about ten years ago. The first volume
Volume VII. No. 82. April, 1905.

was of miniature size, being only about $2\frac{1}{4}'' \times 4''$. Whether or not the eyesight of staff and public gave way it is impossible to say, but at any rate the second volume was an example of the opposite extreme, being about $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 12''$. After several more fluctuations with succeeding volumes, it at last settled down to a happy medium, but a bound set of this publication presents a spectacle ludicrous in the extreme. Taking into due consideration the needs of the library and the public, and learning the views of the readers themselves, we have come to the conclusion that a crown octavo, with a type page of about $3\frac{3}{4}'' \times 6\frac{3}{4}''$, is the most suitable and desirable.

4. The period of issue will differ according to local requirements, and no definite rule can be laid down. The frequency of issue should always be governed by the number of additions. Thus the additions must never be allowed to swamp the magazine owing to the extended intervals between the issues; equally important is it that the magazine should not be issued too frequently to be filled with legitimate matter. As a general principle, the magazine should be issued as often as considerations of matter and money will admit. Want of due foresight in this particular has no doubt been the cause of many librarians resorting to the literary snippets and "piffle" cited last month, as a means of filling up their magazines.

5. We come now to the detailed cost of the magazine. It is difficult to gain more than an average idea, as the rates of composition and the income from advertisements differ in many towns. Three considerations govern the production: the circulation to be expected—in other words the size of the edition—the inclusion of advertisements, and the composition rates.

6. First there is the question of distribution. Whenever possible we should advocate the gratuitous distribution of the magazine; any charge, however small, sets a check on its usefulness. The effect of this on the advertising power of the magazine is obvious. If it be circulated without charge in large numbers, tradesmen will readily see in it an effective medium of advertisement; and as a necessary consequence better terms can be secured. A certain firm of advertisement contractors has so well realized this recently that it has undertaken to print without charge the magazines of Public Libraries *on condition* that they be distributed to the public gratuitously. And if an enterprising firm can find this method profitable surely the same policy might be adopted more generally by the libraries themselves. Where it is thought necessary to make a charge, a commendable compromise is the practice of some libraries, where the magazine is issued gratis to purchasers of the complete catalogue, and a charge is made to other borrowers.

7. With regard to the number of copies of the magazine to be printed, local circumstances are again the only means of deciding. An examination of existing conditions, however, reveals the fact that a number, equal to about 10 per cent. of the number of borrowers, forms the average edition, if a charge is made for the magazine. Where no

such charge is made, a much larger edition is printed. Thus a library with 20,000 borrowers would either print off 2,000 copies for sale, or about 6,000 for gratuitous distribution.

8. We are assuming that advertisements will form a feature of the publication. Many librarians have a deep-rooted objection to advertisements. While this point of view is perfectly understandable, there are, to our minds, certain advantages in admitting advertisements which outbalance the feeling that advertisements are *infra dignitatem*. Chiefly there is the sternly practical fact that no library publication realizes by sales the initial outlay on its production. We may add here an opinion that library authorities have no business to look upon catalogues as a source of income; the library belongs to the public, and why should it be called upon to pay for the key to its own house? It follows, therefore, that most library magazines without advertisements are conducted at a loss, while those admitting them are in a much better financial condition. There is also another sentimental but eminently practical reason, and that is that tradesmen take some interest in the publications they support by advertisements, and to get your local cheesemonger and tailor to interest himself in the work of the library, is a policy the wisdom of which all practical librarians will acknowledge. The advertisements should, however, be confined strictly to the ends of the magazine, not, as in some cases before our notice, scattered throughout. One of three ways of procuring advertisements is usually followed. Either they are obtained by members of the staff, in their own time for a small commission, or in library hours as a part of their duty; or by the employing of a professional canvasser who requires a substantial commission. In the latter case the commission varies from 10 per cent. to 25 per cent. of the value of the advertisements. Fifteen per cent. seems to be the average paid by fairly influential libraries. We gather that agents are seldom more successful in obtaining advertisements than members of the staff might be; and as 15 per cent. is certainly a considerable deduction from their value, it would be better for the libraries to attempt first of all to obtain them themselves, only employing an agent in the event of unsatisfactory results.

9. Advertisement rates vary, as we said. For the magazine we advocate, the crown 8vo., advertisements average as follows:—

Where the magazine is quarterly:

		£	s.	d.	
Back of cover.	1 page	3	0	0	per annum.
	$\frac{1}{2}$ page	1	15	0	"
	$\frac{1}{4}$ page		18	0	"
Inside of cover.	1 page	2	5	0	"
	$\frac{1}{2}$ page	1	7	6	"
	$\frac{1}{4}$ page		15	0	"
Inside pages	1 page	2	0	0	"
	$\frac{1}{2}$ page	1	5	0	"
	$\frac{1}{4}$ page		15	0	"

Where the magazine is monthly or bi-monthly :

		£	s.	d.	
Back of cover	1 page	1	10	0	per insertion.
	$\frac{1}{2}$ page		16	0	"
	$\frac{1}{4}$ page		8	0	"
Inside of cover	1 page	1	5	0	"
	$\frac{1}{2}$ page		13	6	"
	$\frac{1}{4}$ page		7	0	"
Inside pages	1 page	1	0	0	"
	$\frac{1}{2}$ page		10	6	"
	$\frac{1}{4}$ page		5	6	"

with a discount of 10 per cent. if the advertisements be taken for one year. We have stated the quarterly magazine rates at a scale per annum, and the more frequently issued at insertion rates. Although some large towns may issue a magazine only four times yearly, it is certainly true that only large towns can afford to issue one monthly or bi-monthly; hence the advertisement rates are higher in the more frequently issued magazines, as they are put forth by the towns where commercial competition is keener, and where a larger circle of readers is to be expected. Again, advertisers are often found in large towns who will take up one or two insertions, whereas a year's advertisements would be too great an undertaking for them. In smaller towns we doubt whether single insertions are worth obtaining. While we are on the subject of advertisement we may suggest that advertisements should never be allowed to become dead; in other words, advertisers should be encouraged to re-write them at reasonable intervals. An advertisement running from quarter to quarter and from year to year without variation, not only keeps the appearance of the magazine at one monotonous level, but is of ever decreasing commercial value. If a suggestion were made to the advertiser on this point there is little doubt he would appreciate it. The cost would be slightly increased, but the increase in interest justifies it.

10. We mentioned above that the cost of composing varies greatly in different towns, but from a survey of the printing bills of several important magazines we are able to form a fairly correct idea of the average cost. Where the magazine is a royal octavo printed in two or three columns, the cost varies from 8s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per page. Blocks and special features are not included in this price. The crown octavo magazine averages 6s. 8d. per page. This last price includes the use of every variety of type necessary in such a publication. Effort should be made to procure terms that will secure the publication against extra charges for corrections. These are often numerous in library catalogue matter; and here we may point to the necessity of accurate and intelligible copy. As no interference on the part of the compositor with the adopted scheme of punctuation or spelling should be tolerated, so in preparing the copy, clear writing, accurate punctuation, and careful indications of type to be used should be insisted upon.

II. In the following table are given figures taken from eleven representative British library magazines.

Period of Issue.	Edition	Size.	Pages	Cols. to Page	Types	Cost per Page	Advertisements: how obtained & rates
Bi-monthly	1000	cr. 8vo.	28	1	all	8/6	By Staff. From 30/- per full page insertion to 12/6 per $\frac{1}{2}$ page insertn.
Quarterly	600	roy. 8vo.	24	3	6	9/-	None.
"	700	cr. 8vo.	16	1	all	5/6	None.
"	250	"	16	1	all	5/3	None.
"	2000	roy. 8vo.	16	2	all	10/6	By agent at 25 per cent. com., and by Staff. From 30/- per full page insertion to 15/- per $\frac{1}{2}$ page insertn.
"	1000	cr. 8vo.	16	1	4	5/9	By Staff in spare time at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. com. From £3 per full page to 18/- per $\frac{1}{2}$ page ann.
"	1000	octavo	38	2	all	7/-	None.
"	300	cr. 8vo.	16	1	all	5/-	None.
"	2000	"	16	1	all	5/2	By agent. From 30/- per full page insertion to 7/- per $\frac{1}{2}$ page insertion.
"	1000	"	24	1	all	6/6	By Staff. From £1 per full page insertion to 5/- per $\frac{1}{2}$ page insertion.
"	300	"	52	1	all	2/6	None.

(To be continued.)



"BLACKING-OUT."

By A. J. PHILIP, *Public Library Gravesend.*

o o o

THERE is no doubt much to be said in favour of obliterating betting news from those papers which make a speciality of racing. Not only because an easy and free method of obtaining the latest intelligence is liable to throw temptation in the way of those who might otherwise be indifferent to it, but because those who take advantage of it, and they usually run in cliques, are a nuisance to the other and legitimate users of the reading-rooms. It is this that forms

one of the most really effective arguments of those reformers who wish to improve the newsroom out of existence; perhaps because there is an indisputable ground for complaint—the gambling mania is a nuisance! While the preventative methods adopted are directed against the abuse solely on the grounds of public convenience, we cannot but sympathise with them however much we may consider them mistaken, but when for “public convenience,” public morality is substituted, our sympathy becomes pity, and that in turn becomes contempt for the heedless and often wilful blindness which is shown in entering on a course which must ultimately result in ridicule, if in nothing worse.

Such appears to be the fate likely to overtake Watford Public Library, even if it should not be considered to have already overtaken it. Following a plan adopted with more or less success, generally the latter, in many libraries, Watford blacked out the betting news. At the time of writing a proposal is on foot to bring up at the next meeting of the Library Committee a motion, the object of which will be to black out in the same way the Divorce Court proceedings and the Stock Exchange news. One can scarcely venture to think that the idea is not an ingenious burlesque. But already the torrent of ridicule has commenced to fall.

A censorship exercised on moral grounds must necessarily be extended to the lending and reference libraries, and one of the Watford councillors wittily suggests that a written recommendation should be demanded for every book issued and that only men over the age of twenty-one should be admitted to membership. The question must surely be considered seriously whether the committee or the council should not prescribe the fashions for the dress of their visitors.

Apart from Watford as a particular case, the question of “blacking out” is one upon which a great deal yet remains to be said. Limited strictly to the consideration of betting news, it is far from a foregone conclusion that it should be put under the censor’s stamp. The provinces do not enter into the question to the same extent as the metropolis for various reasons, which are, however, roughly summed up in the one word—distance.

I do not suggest for a moment that betting is carried on in a lesser degree in the smaller provincial towns, in fact, I believe the opposite to be the case. The means of legitimate amusement and the social life of the city are wanting, and recourse is had to the more injurious forms of excitement.

To deal a little more explicitly with this matter of distance, it is obvious that unless the town is large enough to possess both morning, noon, and evening papers, it must depend upon the London press or private telegrams. It is also equally a matter of course that if it has to depend upon the London papers, the greater the distance at which it lies from London, the more the private wire will have to be relied upon. It is perhaps necessary to explain that the private wire need not be a wire to a private individual, but

may, and most often is, one to a bookmaker, who is usually a shop-keeper in a small way; this shop-keeper, however, is very frequently nothing more than the agent working on a commission for the book-maker, who is much too "big" to appear in the sixpenny and shilling transactions which is the form this class of betting usually takes. In either case, the news, when it arrives by the slower process of the news train is old, and the only purpose it can serve is that of verification. There is another point to be considered, where the distance from town is not so great as to make a wire profitable, and that is this; no library, unless it is catering particularly for those readers it as particularly wishes to exclude, "takes" more than one edition of a paper a day. With regard to the evening papers, and they are the most serious offenders, this edition is usually a "late" one, at all events, after noon, if it is not it should be. But it is the early issues that are of most value to the "sportsman." These, seeing that he cannot obtain them at the library, he buys, and the later library edition is again old news. It will, of course, be remembered that our imaginary town is one of those to which the London evening papers are sent; and it will thus be seen that the betting "nuisance" in the provincial towns round London is practically non-existent. Of this I can speak from personal knowledge. It is nothing more than a bogey raised up by the ultra-righteous who see in the amateur's interest in football and cricket only an evil propensity, if not an already established vice.



BY-THE-WAY NOTES.

o o o

IT may be noted as significant of the extent to which books enter into the lives of all classes, that when the men of the Bromley Factory in Moscow stopped work during the recent crisis, one of their demands was for the establishment of a factory library with a reading-room.

"PEOPLE often destroy pamphlets, and other odds and ends, from which the librarian could select just the thing required to fill a gap, if only the chance were given." Thus wrote Mr. Ballinger, of Cardiff, referring not to printed matter alone, but also to MSS., plans, and what not. Many a household clearance takes place, which includes items of possible value for a local collection, though waste paper to the owners or their executors, and it behoves the librarian to be on the look out for unconsidered trifles.

Few realize how many items which make history are destroyed, sometimes wilfully, but more often through ignorance that any interest

might attach to a stray plan of an estate, a MS. list of subscribers to some fund of long ago, an appeal for help or prayer in the time of some national calamity, a seventeenth century sermon on the decease of some local worthy, private letters of centuries past, and so on. In the old days, before copying presses were invented, careful men kept MS. copies of the letters they wrote, mostly in vellum bound quartos. Some we have examined are crammed with information as to local and national events, law, lore and custom, happily written by men or women whose sympathies were broad and whose tastes were eclectic.

It would be interesting to know when the earliest free *public* library was started. Libraries for the free use of certain privileged classes, mostly clerical, existed we know in the far-away mediæval days, but perhaps the little village library at Closeburn, N.B., to which Robert Burns gave help, was the pioneer of true free Public Libraries.

IN Roebuck and Thorne's capital little Primer of Library Practice is a reminder to those who correct proofs to write printers' instructions, or any matter not to appear, in red ink, or to encircle the instructions with a line. This recalled to mind a curious slip we once saw on a wine list at a restaurant. The proprietor, proud of a certain Burgundy, wished the printer to put the line in the list in red ink; doubtlessly he wrote "red ink" on the margin, so it duly appeared "Well-matured Burgundy red ink."

THOSE who regard Manchester as simply a busy, bustling, wet city (it does rain there!) wholly given over to commerce, should have read John o' London's remarks in *T. P's. Weekly*, March 3rd, on "Manchester's feeling for literature" and its "superb symbol in the John Ryland's Library." Few indeed who have not visited it have the least idea of the richness of the collection or of the sumptuous beauty of the buildings.

A CIRCULAR entitled "The Cost of an International Language" has recently emanated from North Tarrytown, N.Y., U.S.A., in which the latest use for the library is outlined. After several proposals for the making and teaching of a universal language, we find the following paragraph: "The beautiful language could be specially aided in its literature. The world could hire ten thousand volumes of the best literature translated into it at five thousand dollars a volume. It could have a hundred thousand libraries made and distributed among the colleges, cities and towns at a dollar a volume on that vast issue, or for only a billion of dollars all told."

After this highly modest demand for something like £200,000,000, the writer goes on to make equally modest requests for other amounts totalling \$5,000,000,000. Imagine talking about "only a billion dollars" in these days of cheap fittings and vanishing book incomes!

AN OBJECT LESSON FROM ABERDEEN.

o o o

THE question of the illegality of making any kind of preliminary charge for admission to, or the use of, a Public Library, has received one more illustration in a case recently decided in the Sheriff's Court at Aberdeen. This is set forth in a somewhat racy and plain-spoken pamphlet with the following title—"The Plundering of the Public by Public Libraries. The case against the Aberdeen Public Library, to which is appended a report of the Hawick Public Library test case, 1894. By J. Cyril M. Weale." Aberdeen: Wm. Smith, The Bon-accord Press. 1904. 36 pp. 2s.

In brief, Mr. Weale's contention was that the Aberdeen Public Library had no right to charge him and his family for application forms for borrowers' cards, and claimed all such charges levied upon him since 1900. The Library Authority took refuge behind the "Public Authorities' Protection Act" of 1893, which bars all proceedings for the recovery of debts if not commenced within six months, and tendered fourpence in satisfaction of Mr. Weale's claim for the period not statute-barred, thus admitting that their charge for forms was illegal. The Library Committee have further admitted the illegality of these charges by rescinding the rule imposing the charge of a penny for a form, and Mr. Weale has thus the satisfaction of having vindicated the public rights at some cost to himself. We have pointed out on previous occasions the illegality of making charges for tickets or forms, in defiance of the Act of 1892, and trust that this Aberdeen case may serve as a plain warning to other library authorities that they are not within their rights in making any kind of charge before a reader can use the library.



LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

o o o

[Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.]

Askam and Lindal.—These villages, practically suburbs of Dalton-in-Furness, are now provided with reading-room libraries, served from the central library at Dalton. At the opening ceremonies on March 4th, it was stated that the buildings had been erected by the allocation of £500 of the £3,500 given by Dr. Carnegie to Dalton.

Barry, Cardiff.—The Public Libraries' Committee have adopted the recommendation to obliterate betting news in the papers. One councillor's remarks implied that the recommendation was the result of "forty recently converted young men" having confessed their betting habits to the Rev. R. Evans.

Belfast.—Mr. G. Maxwell, Librarian of the Linen Hall Library, is to be congratulated on the improvement manifested in popular appreciation of the institution, the result of certain alterations made in 1903. An increase of no less than 19,000 issues is recorded in the past year, whilst the financial position is eminently satisfactory.

Bethnal Green.—The Public Library is receiving a further grant of £20 from the Clothworkers' Company, which, added to previous gifts from the same source, makes a total of £211.

Bradford.—We are glad to see that the reference room, hitherto a somewhat poorly provided department of the Public Library, is to be removed to the floor formerly occupied by the art gallery, where, with ample space at command a quiet room for students will be provided.

Bury, Lancashire.—Mr. Townend is throwing himself heartily into the scheme for making the Public Library the repository for every scrap of MSS., printed matter, &c., relating to the past history of the town, and offers the services of the library officials in the collation, preservation and arrangement of all such material.

Colwyn Bay.—The Public Library is to be opened on April 24th, Easter Monday.

Criccieth.—The opening of the new Public Library has been postponed from the date mentioned in our last issue to April 24th, Easter Monday, when J. E. Greaves, Esq., Lord Lieutenant of the County of Carnarvon is to conduct the opening ceremony.

Dukinfield.—Dr. Carnegie's offer of £2,500 towards a new Public Library does not at present seem to be appreciated by the townsmen, the General Purposes Committee having voted against its acceptance.

Ealing.—We note the Public Library Committee is printing two thousand copies of the library catalogue at a cost of £116 10s. We question if printed catalogues are worth any appreciable portion of their cost, though we admit that *when first issued* they meet the wants of the few studious or systematic readers, but in so short a time are they out of date that, even to those few, the catalogues are practically of little value.

Edinburgh.—The Trades and Labour Council recently listened to an address by Mr. D. W. Kemp, J.P., on the need for a National Library for Scotland. We have long thought that as the Advocates' Library at Edinburgh receives free copies of all works published (under the Acts of Parliament which provide the British Museum with copies) that institution should be opened at hours to suit the general public. We are glad to note that Mr. Kemp takes this view.

Galashiels.—Mrs. Dick, after thirty-one years of service, has resigned her post of librarian of the Public Library, to the great regret of the committee. Mr. Thomas Somerville has been appointed her successor.

Glasgow.—Mr. F. T. Barrett delivered an admirable address on "Some old books in the Mitchell Library," for which we wish we had space. We must content ourselves with this short extract:—

"One of the most pleasing forms in which this sentiment [local patriotism] expressed itself was the practice, now, happily, almost universal, of collecting within the Public Library of each town or district, the literature relating to its own locality. . . . at the first meeting of the Library Committee which I attended on taking up duty twenty-eight years ago, I ventured to recommend, among other matters, that one object of the Mitchell Library, then about to be commenced, was to secure and preserve every book or pamphlet or other printed matter which in any way illustrated the city's history and development."

Glasgow, Woodside.—The Lord Provost of Glasgow, at the opening ceremony of this branch library gave a brief address appreciative of the efforts which have provided the city with these centres of intellectual progress. Mr. J. R. Rhind, the architect, is to be congratulated on his design for this as for other Glasgow library buildings.

Goole.—On March 13th the Public Library was opened by Alderman Milnes Gaskell, who delivered an address in a charmingly discursive fashion duly acknowledging Dr. Carnegie's generosity in providing the building, and Mr. Ralph Creyke's, of Rawcliffe, who presented the site, the title-deeds of which were handed to the chairman at the opening ceremony. Mr. H. P. Thorp, the architect, has succeeded in providing Goole with an unpretentious but suitable library building, well adapted for its purpose.

Grahamstown (S. A.)—Apropos the annual meeting of the Public Library Committee and friends held on February 6th, *Grocott's Penny Mail* gives an animated leader on "this great, growing and useful local institution," and states that "notwithstanding the drought, commercial depression, lack of employment, and the resemblance of many private exchequers to the cupboard of Old Mother Hubbard, the library has forged ahead steadily." From the report we gather that both the general and reference libraries are progressing in points of finance, readers, and number of volumes.

Hampstead.—*The St. John's Wood Advertiser* recently gave a good view of the Central Public Library with proposed extensions, from Mr. Arnold S. Taylor's drawing. We hope to refer to this matter again.

Hobart, Tasmania.—We noted in our last issue Mr. Alfred J. Taylor's thirty years' service as librarian. It is pleasant to add that he was requested to place in position the first stone of the Carnegie buildings for the Tasmanian Public Library. Having accomplished his task Mr. Taylor was presented with a mallet suitably inscribed.

Kensal Rise.—The hall of the Public Library has just been furnished with a brass tablet recording Dr. Carnegie's gift of £3,000 towards the building and the presentation of the site by All Souls' College, Oxford.

Kettering.—A donation was received on March 18th by the Public Library, consisting of a picture entitled the "Connoisseur," which was purchased by a number of the townspeople for this purpose. The subject of the painting is from a study of a well-known inhabitant of Kettering, and the artist, Mr. Gotch, is also a townsman. Advantage was also taken of the occasion to exhibit a number of the more costly works of Reference, together with a large collection of local maps, engravings, &c. Much interest was manifested in the exhibition.

King's Lynn.—At a meeting of the Stanley Public Library Committee, held on March 7th, it was announced that Dr. Carnegie has consented to open the new Public Library on May 18th. Mr. T. E. Maw, the librarian, reported that donations to the furnishing fund amounted to £73 14s.

Leeds.—A room is being set apart in the city library in which Mr. Hand, the librarian, is gathering an important collection of books on Yorkshire and by Yorkshire authors. Space is provided for the use of students of local literature.

Leicester.—The new Public Library, or Municipal Library as it is officially styled, bids fair to afford the fuller accommodation so long desired by Mr. C. V. Kirkby, the librarian, who has for years had to contend with the difficulties arising from the out-of-date arrangements of the building hitherto containing Leicester's library. We are glad to note that a handsome and suitable room takes the place of the unsatisfactory reference room.

Leyton.—We are pleased to note that Mr. Moon is able to write, in his Library Magazine:—

"It will be of great interest to the increasing number of students of local history to know that the whole of the public documents formerly in the possession of the overseers of the parish of Leyton, have been transferred to the Public Library.

Malvern.—The body known as "Patrons of the Free Library" was not long since created by a happy thought. The report of the first annual meeting shows gifts of books of considerable value resulting from the Patrons' efforts. Every annual subscriber of not less than a guinea has the privilege of voting as to works to be given to the Public Library.

Middlesbrough.—Mr. Baker Hudson, the borough librarian, in addition to the library of Mr. G. M. Tweddell, the Cleveland historian, has now in his charge a notable collection of books relating to the North Riding of Yorkshire.

Muswell Hill.—Mr. J. Edmondson, who over four years ago gave a site for a Public Library, on condition of the commencement of buildings within five years, has generously extended the time by another five years; before the expiration of that period it is hoped the rates will allow of the undertaking.

Penrith.—Professor Baldwin Brown, of Edinburgh, puts in an admirable plea for the retention of the whole exterior of the two houses which are being adapted, by internal alterations, to the purposes of a Town Hall and Library. There appears to be great probability that the houses owe the simple dignity of their classic façade to the celebrated Robert Adam, who was in Penrith district from 1767 to 1771, and again in 1785. Mr. J. J. Knewstubb, the architect, will no doubt treat the front in a conservative manner.

Shirehampton, Bristol.—This small Public Library is now well established, the Bristol Corporation having taken over the responsibility of its support. The amount derivable from the penny library rate for Shirehampton being only about £36 per annum, a considerable sum will have to be provided by the central authority.

Southport.—Elementary and higher grade schools of Southport will have the benefit of a supply of books from the Public Library under the provisional scheme adopted by the Education Committee. This committee proposes to give £50 per annum to the library for the purchase of suitable books, and £13 towards cost of collecting and delivering. As one councillor pointed out, practically some fifteen school libraries will thus be established.

Stourbridge.—Dr. Carnegie's gift of £3,000 for the Public Library being now completed by a final instalment of £500, the committee have to find the books and a librarian. The former requirement is to be obtained by a canvass of the district, the latter by an advertisement for a librarian at a salary of £80 per annum, his duties commencing this month. The Committee has decided to adopt the Open Access system in the lending department.

Wigan.—That extension of space is a necessity for the life of the Public Library we have long known, and note that Mr. Tennyson Folkard, the librarian, emphasizes the fact in his annual report, wherein he says :—

"Want of room is the chief difficulty which the institution has to contend with in every department of its work, and year by year it intensifies. The News Rooms are frequently crowded out. The shelving space in the Reference Department is practically exhausted, and after the schools close the inrush of borrowers using the juvenile department is a cause of inconvenience which must in some way be remedied."

The branch libraries seem to be in flourishing condition so far as is indicated by their appreciation by readers.

Worksop.—A pseudonymous writer in *The Worksop Guardian* having visited King's Lynn, and seen "a magnificent new building, crowned by an elegant lofty square tower" and learnt that this "striking edifice" was the Public Library, draws comparison between it and the library buildings at Worksop, much to the disparagement of the latter, and concludes by asking why Worksop should not have "a decent free library building instead of the present abortion"? Our advice would be—apply to Dr. Carnegie for help towards erecting a structure worthy of the town.

York.— From *The Yorkshire Post* we learn that the Dean and Chapter "have decided upon a very interesting step in connection with the important library at present housed in what remains of Archbishop De Grey's Palace. The library, which contains a unique collection of Bibles, among them being the only extant copies of several famous editions, and which is in many respects more complete than the notable collection at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, is to be removed to the old choir school adjoining the south transept of the Minster and the Archbishop's Registry. This building is being specially restored and prepared for the purpose."

Mr. Caddie, of the Chester Library has secured the appointment of librarian of the Public Library, Lowestoft.

Mr. Alfred Cotgreave, Librarian of the West Ham Public Libraries, we see by a local newspaper, is retiring from his official position on account of ill-health, and will in future devote his spare time to his numerous inventions. Mr. Cotgreave has long been a prominent figure in English librarianship, and has distinguished himself as an inventor of library appliances and compiler of useful publications. Among the former it is hardly necessary to do more than mention his well-known Indicator, which is still the most-used form in existence; while among the latter his *Contents Subject-Index to General Literature* and *Views and Memoranda of Public Libraries* may be honourably mentioned.

Mr. Cotgreave is a Cheshire man, and has fifty-six years to his credit, of which over thirty have been passed in the Public Library service. He was trained in the Manchester Royal Exchange Library and Birmingham Public Libraries, and became, in 1877, Librarian of Wednesbury Public Library. He was librarian of Richmond, Surrey, from 1880 to 1884; of Wandsworth from 1884 to 1886; the Guille-Allès Library, Guernsey, from 1886; and of West Ham, 1891-1905.

A VERY interesting announcement is made in the retirement of Mr. **Thomas Mason** from the librarianship of St. Martin-in-the-Fields (Westminster) Public Library, after seventeen years' service. Mr. Mason has been superannuated by his own desire, and retires on a handsome allowance, with the intention of devoting himself to literary and journalistic pursuits. For many years he was one of the leading spirits of the Library Association, and for some years he acted as joint-secretary of that organization, of which he was also a Vice-President. Mr. Mason was a native of Scotland, and early devoted himself to literary studies, the fruits of which are to be found in a number of professional papers; his *Public and Private Libraries of Glasgow* (1885); *Adam Dickson* (1886), a novel; guide-books, and various other compilations. He was trained in the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, 1877-1881, and afterwards became librarian of Stirling's Library and Baillie's Institution, Glasgow; 1881-1888; becoming first librarian of St. Martin-in-the-Fields in 1888. In addition to his professional activities, Mr. Mason was a prominent Oddfellow and Freemason; and also acted for some years as honorary librarian of the Savage Club. In the earlier years of the Library

Association Mr. Mason was a regular visitor at all meetings, and did much by his energy and sound business organization to place that body in a strong position.

Mr. N. E. Norris, for twenty-five years librarian of the Grahamstown Library, is retiring on a well-earned pension, and has the satisfaction of knowing that his committee bear testimony to his uniform courtesy and his devotion to the duties of his office.

Mr. Frank Pacy, the well-known librarian of St. George, Hanover Square, has been appointed chief librarian of all the Public Libraries of the City of Westminster.

Mr. F. E. Tyler, senior assistant of the St. Bride Library, London, has written a paper on "The Transformation of London," the first instalment appearing in *The Home Counties Magazine* for April.

THE LONDON INSTITUTION & THE SOCIETY OF ARTS.

THE welfare of the London Institution, with its collection of about 138,000 books, is a subject of interest to librarians, who will note the proposal for amalgamation with the Society of Arts. Though the joint committee, presided over by the Lord Chief Justice, strongly recommend the union of the two organizations, much feeling exists against the proposal, and we watch the result with interest, being convinced that both institutions are of great educational value to London.



THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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IN the *Library Association Record* for March, Thomas E. Maw writes on "State Aid to Public Libraries." He opens: "It may seem somewhat extravagant or Utopian to suggest at the present time that the State should contribute towards the maintenance of Public Libraries, yet it may be no further beyond the bounds of practical politics than the plan for getting rid of the financial difficulties of nearly all libraries by removing the rate limit." He makes a number of practical suggestions for obtaining Government grants, and suggests that the ratio of support should be "5 per cent. on the product of a penny rate, 7½ per cent. on a rate of three-halfpence, and 10 per cent. on a rate of twopence in the pound. A library with an income of £1,000 from a penny rate would, subject, of course, to a satisfactory report in every case, receive £50, but if a twopence rate were levied, the Government grant would be £200, thus holding out an inducement to a locality to be more generous in its contributions to the

Public Library. I would also recommend an additional grant of 10 per cent. to all gifts to Public Libraries." Walter Powell contributes a suggestive paper on "Indexes Wanted." The chief indexes he considers necessary are to : Essays, poetry and ballads, drama, portraits, heraldry, biographies, topographical views and maps, parliamentary reports. He contends that with such indexes, "a well-selected library of 5,000 volumes as useful as many a library of 10,000 volumes is under existing conditions." G. H. Palmer supplies a long and extremely good list of the best books in the Fine Arts published during 1903.

The John Carter Brown Library of Americana in Brown University is described in the February *Library Journal*. The collection was started by Nicholas Brown as far back as 1740, and each succeeding member of the family has added to it until now it numbers about 13,000 volumes. "Rules for Corporate Entry" are given by J. C. M. Hanson. He compares the various existing rules, and discusses minutely the A.L.A. code. W. F. Yust reviews library legislation of 1904, and Caroline M. Hewins describes the children's room of the Hartford Public Library. The number also contains a number of short notes, and the usual departments.

The February *Public Libraries* is a library commission number. Gratia A. Countryman opens with a paper on "State Aid to Libraries." The writer limits her remarks to "that form of state aid which has sought to promote the establishment of free Public Libraries by the appropriation of state funds. Also, the effort to furnish, through state agency, the free use of books to the entire population of the state, and to supervise and organize this library effort through state organization, as the public school system is organized." After a few general remarks, she examines what is being done in the various States. The "Instructional Work of Library Commissions" is dealt with by Alice S. Tyler. "Library commissions are dealing in a majority of cases with libraries that are unable, financially, to employ a regular trained librarian, and in most cases the salary available is so small as it make it necessary to employ a librarian whose home is in the town and who can afford to accept the work for less compensation, but who must in some way be instructed as to her duties and the librarian's responsibilities." The writer concludes that, under existing circumstances, the best way to give the necessary instruction is to bring the librarians together, and collectively give lectures and practice work in a summer school of from four to eight weeks. After a number of reports from various commissions comes an article by W. R. Eastman, on the value and work of a State library organizer. He divides his consideration of the organizer under the heads of (1) his opportunities to know, (2) his qualifications, and (3) his duties. The article is a very interesting one, and is the best in the number. The travelling libraries of various states are reported upon by L. E. Stearns, and Johnson Brigham summarizes the "Laws Authorizing Library Commissions."

The March number, which is a bibliographical number, contains a good article on "Bibliography in America," by William C. Lane, and another by Frederick J. Teggart on "An International Catalog of

Technological Literature." Bibliography and cataloguing are contrasted by Frank L. Tolman. Theoretically bibliography is simply ideal cataloguing. However, it does not represent any particular existing collection, and it is always more specialized than cataloguing, being intended to answer special questions. Worthy of note is the plan for a Universal Library which aims at placing any desired book within reach of any person wishing to make reasonable use of the same, which has been submitted by the New England Education League and International Conference.

The *Literary Collector* has issued a title-page and index to volume eight, May—October, 1904.



LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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CATALOGUES.

Publications of the Library of Congress.

A Check List of Foreign Newspapers in the Library of Congress. Compiled under the direction of Allan Bedient Slausen, Chief, Periodical Division. 71 pp. 4to. 1904.

Uniform in style with previous newspaper lists. Printed on one side of the paper only, with right hand column of printed page left blank for additions or corrections. The arrangement is by the place of publication, and then by the principal descriptive word of the title. The following is the style of entry:—

The National REFORMER. Radical advocate
and freethought journal."

Apr. 14, 1860—Oct. 1, 1893. v. 1-62.
No more published.

List of References on the United States Consular Service, with appendix on Consular Service in Foreign Countries. Compiled under the direction of A. P. C. Griffin, Chief Bibliographer. 27 pp. 4to. 1905.

List of References on Primary Elections, Particularly Direct Primaries. Compiled under the direction of A. P. C. Griffin, Chief Bibliographer. 25 pp. 4to. 1905.

Select List of References on Impeachment. Compiled under the direction of A. P. C. Griffin, Chief Bibliographer. 16 pp. 4to. 1905.

Three of the familiar bibliographies issued by the Library of Congress. The first two contain references to books and periodicals; the other, having been compiled with reference to an impeachment case before Congress, contains only the more important books on the subject.

The Kohl Collection (now in the Library of Congress) of Maps relating to America. By Justin Winsor. A reprint of Bibliographical Contribution Number 19 of the Library of Harvard University. With index by Philip Lee Phillips, chief, Division of Maps and Charts. 189 pp. 4to. 1904.

A reprint of Justin Winsor's valuable and interesting description of the Kohl collection first published by the Harvard University in 1886. No alterations have been made in the work, but an index has been added which greatly enhances its usefulness. The arrangement of the entries is by broad localities and then chronological, and the entries are very fully annotated.

Papers of James Monroe. Listed in chronological order from the original manuscripts in the Library of Congress. Compiled under the direction of W. C. Ford, Chief, Division of Manuscripts. 114 pp. 4to. Facsimiles. 1904.

The papers of Monroe were transferred from the Department of State to the Library of Congress in 1903. The present list is issued as complementary to that issued by the Department of State in 1893 which was arranged alphabetically. Thus the alphabetical list is useful for determining the letters written by any one man, while the present one with its chronological arrangement gives the historical sequence of the papers. A twelve-page facsimile of Monroe's journals of negotiations for the purchase of Louisiana precedes the list.

List of the Vernon-Wager Manuscripts in the Library of Congress. Compiled under the direction of W. C. Ford, Chief, Division of Manuscripts. 148 pp. 4to. Facsimiles. 1904.

A collection which came into the possession of the Library of Congress in 1867, comprising the correspondences of Sir Charles Wager and Edward Vernon. It covers an interesting period in the history of English operations in the West Indies. "The expedition against Cartagena and Cuba, a proposed expedition against Georgia and Florida, and the attempts to suppress piracy on the Spanish main, constitute the naval features." The slave trade, the South Sea Company, the history of Jamaica, Nova Scotia, and North America, and British colonial and naval policy, are among the other matters included. Various facsimiles are scattered throughout.

Camberwell Public Libraries. Catalogue of Books in the Passmore Edwards North Camberwell Library. Compiled by W. J. Vellenoweth, Librarian. 217 pp. 8vo. 1904.

A dictionary catalogue. Entries are across the page, and are fairly full. Dates of publication are given, and also the periods covered by historical works. Short annotations are supplied in some cases, and important contents are set out. Fiction is arranged in an alphabet by itself. This catalogue represents about as high a standard as Public Library dictionary cataloguing can be expected to attain under present circumstances.

Levenshulme Carnegie Public Library. Catalogue. 55 pp. 8vo. 1904. Price 3d.

An author and title catalogue. Entries are cut down as much as possible, and much important information has been omitted. As we understand that only three weeks were available for compilation, however, the result is very satisfactory.

Tynemouth Public Library. Supplementary Catalogue of the Lending Department, 1899—1904. Compiled and edited by Alfred Hair. 80 pp. 8vo. 1904. Price 3d.

A general catalogue in dictionary form, followed by an alphabetical list of fiction. Brief annotations of rather more than average merit are supplied in places, and altogether the catalogue is a very creditable production.

REPORTS.

Aberdeen, twentieth report, 1903-04. Stock 62,130 volumes; borrowers 10,198; volumes issued 311,602 (lending 288,567, reference 20,035), last year 289,076; expenditure £3,336. Three new delivery stations have been opened, and a nucleus of books for each. A suggestion is made which is worth noting. "Aberdeen, it is well known, is remarkable for the variety of its industries. It could only tend to the greater efficiency of workmen, and to the benefit of all, if in each workshop a small nucleus of the very best technical books bearing on each particular industry were made available for the workers. Employers, who would find it possible to provide such at the cost of a very few pounds, ought to be able to reap, for the small expenditure, a return in the adoption, perhaps, of improved methods and the production of better work. In such a matter the Public Library Management would be very willing to co-operate in so far as giving information and help in the selection and purchase of such books. Meantime, any employer who is desirous of encouraging reading among his workers—whether taking up the above suggestion or not—has only to apply to the Librarian for a 'Reading List' on any particular subject, and a list of the books and articles in the Public Library bearing on that subject will be supplied, for the purpose of being posted up in the workshop."

Belfast, sixteenth report, 1904. Stock 45,171 volumes; borrowers 12,753; volumes issued 308,378 (reference 71,843, lending 236,535). The sites for the two Carnegie branches have been decided upon, and the Gas and Electric Committee have supplied the necessary funds for their purchase. Betting news has been blacked out, and the result has been "a marked decrease in the daily number of persons frequenting" the newsrooms. Extra "Student's" tickets have been issued.

Plymouth, twenty-seventh report, 1903-04. Stock 52,537 volumes; borrowers 2,607; volumes issued 400,314 (lending 329,450, reference 70,864), daily average 1,359 volumes. A branch evening reading room has been opened. A number of schools, having come under the Education Committee, have been included in the system of school libraries.

BULLETINS.

Accrington: *Public Library and Technical School Journal*. Jan.—March. Gratis. *Contents:* Library Notes and News; Recent Additions; Books for Boys and Girls; Special List—Russia; On Matters Educational. The list of additions is better and more fully annotated than most. A little more balance in the annotations is, however, desirable.

Bootle: *Free Library, Museum, and Technical School Journal*. March. *Contents:* Notes on Books, New and Old; Museum Notes; Recent Additions to the Central Library. There are also odd notes on book-buying; books in relation to national efficiency, by Sidney Lee; and reading for the blind.

Brooklyn: *Bulletin*. February. Contains a classified list of additions.

Croydon: *The Reader's Index*. March and April. Price 1d. *Contents:* Fiction with a Purpose, by Henry T. Coutts; Brevities (comprising statistics, donations, etc.); Additions: Lending and Reference Libraries; The Teacher's Note Book. Mr. Coutts has given us an interesting little article, written round some old familiar books whose only connection with one another is their having been published to expose some evil. He has evidently thoroughly entered into his subject—especially in describing the evils—and has been painstaking in his work. The list of additions is annotated in the usual elaborate way.

Darwen: *Public Library Journal*. February. Price 1d. *Contents:* Notes; Lending Library: Latest Additions; Lancashire Novels. The list contains occasional brief annotations. The list of Lancashire Novels is an interesting feature and deserved annotating more fully.

Kingston-upon-Thames: *Our New Books*. January. Gratis. *Contents:* Notes; Recent Additions; Reading List—Surrey. The reading list, obviously modelled on the one which appeared in the Croydon bulletin, has been prepared in connection with a course of University Extension lectures.

Manchester: *Quarterly Record*. *Contents:* Books Placed in the Reference Library from July to September, 1904 (with author index); The Moss Side Public Library. Gives an account of the Moss Side Library which has recently come under the control of the Manchester Libraries Committee owing to the amalgamation of the Urban District of Moss Side with the City of Manchester.

Nottingham: *Bulletin*. April. Price ½d. *Contents:* Notes; List of Recent Additions; Special List—French Literature; Books on Foreign Missions (supplementary); Our Branches. Occasional annotations are supplied.

St. Louis: *Monthly Bulletin*. March. *Contents:* Recent Additions; The Aztecs. The list of additions is annotated much more fully than usual, although a judicious use of the editorial blue pencil would be an improvement. The reading list on the Aztecs is interesting.

Sunderland: *Library Circular*. January. Gratis. *Contents:* Illustration of the Public Library; Notes and News; List of Books Added to the Library; Annals of Sunderland (continued) by J. W. Fawcett. An illustrated description of a new dating label is given. The list of additions has occasional annotations.

West Ham: *Public Library Hand-Lists*, 9: Books on co-operation. An expansion of a list which appeared in the West Ham Library Notes. Arranged under authors and annotated.

Willesden Green: *Quarterly Record and Guide for Readers*. January. Gratis. *Contents:* Library Notes; Willesden Seventy Years ago; Additions to the Library; Parochial Paragraphs. Annotated more fully than usual, but with a want of proportion. As not a single book is referred to, it is difficult to see why the article on old Willesden—interesting though it be—should have been included. The Parochial Paragraphs, including such matters as the unemployed question, a new fire station, the infectious diseases hospital, etc., would have been better omitted.



THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.]

Bain (R. Nisbet) Scandinavia. A political history of Denmark, Norway and Sweden from 1513 to 1900. Cambridge: University Press. 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. x. + 460. *Maps, bibliography*. Price 7s. 6d.

A volume of the Cambridge Historical Series in which is traced the influence of the Scandinavian nations in moulding the political history of Modern Europe.

Mr Bain has written a most interesting work on a subject which is not usually assigned sufficient importance in English historical education, and it fills a distinct gap in the literature of northern national history.

Clarke (Archibald L.). *Manual of practical indexing.* London: Library Supply Co. 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. 184. Price 5s. net.

Literary indexing, commercial indexing and the mechanical production of indexes.

A really practical, well-designed and common-sense work on indexing in all its branches has long been wanted, and it is safe to say that Mr. Clarke has produced the nearest approach to such a work yet published. With all respect for the works of Mr. Wheatley, Miss Petherbridge and others, it must be pointed out that they lack the detail and attention to strict rule which must govern exact work like indexing. Mr. Clarke supplies a code of rules for different kinds of indexing work, and furnishes a long series of examples which should prove valuable to workers. It is undoubtedly the best work in English on a difficult subject, and we heartily recommend it to the notice of librarians and all who are in any way interested in the production and cataloguing of books and periodicals.

Douglas (Sir Robert K.) *Europe and the far East.* Cambridge: University Press, 1904. 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 450. *Maps, bibliography.* Price 7s. 6d.

Political relations between various European nations and the Eastern empires of China, Japan, Annam and Siam, from early to present times.

Another useful addition to the Cambridge Historical Series, especially valuable at the present time in view of the great upheaval in the two chief countries concerned—China and Japan. The volume contains everything likely to be required by the student of far eastern politics and the historical relations between the white and yellow races.

Draper (John Wm.). *A History of the intellectual development of Europe.* London: G. Bell & Sons. 1905. 8°, 6½" pp. 2v. Price 4s.

Reprint of a work originally published in 1861, designed to prove that the progress of the intellect is dependent upon physiological and natural laws.

A new addition to the York Library, and one which in its day caused no little controversy.

Foster-Melliar (Rev. A.). *The Book of the Rose.* 3rd. ed. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd. 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xvi + 356. *Illustr.* Price 6s.

The varieties, culture and general history of the rose, with illustrations.

When a book on rose culture reaches a third edition, it may be assumed to be an established authority, and this description applies to Mr. Foster-Melliar's well-known Book of the rose.

The Harmsworth Encyclopædia. Everybody's book of reference. London: The Amalgamated Press, Ltd. [1905]. 8°, 9¾". Parts 1-3 (A to Austin). 480 pp. *Illustr.* Price 7d. per part.

This new encyclopædia is certainly the cheapest work of general reference hitherto published in English, and as it is modern in conception and wide in scope, it should form, when completed, a valuable

addition to the public and private library. The total cost of the forty parts in which the work will be comprised, will amount to 23s. 4d., and as it will form eight volumes when bound, containing 6,400 pages and 50,000 entries, some idea may be obtained of its magnitude and comparatively small cost. It is impossible to form a fair judgment from the parts before us of its accuracy and comprehensiveness. We have noted a number of omissions, but compared with other small-compass encyclopædias it seems, on the whole, well done. As regards its accuracy we hope to comment later, when further instalments of the alphabet come to hand. The manufacture of the book exhibits several defects, creased leaves, unevenly cut margins, misplaced sections, &c. These ought to be guarded against in future.

Hayden (Eleanor G.). *Travels Round Our Village*. London: Archibald Constable & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. 321. *Illust.* Price 3s. 6d. net.

A series of chapters, each complete in itself, devoted to depicting life and scenes in and around a village on the Berkshire downs. Vernacular dialogue, folk-lore, old recipes, and stories of rural environment.

With a sympathetic touch, the authoress of this delightful book unfolds the humbler life of the dwellers of this little hamlet. Full of delightful humour and pathos, glimpses of home life and sketches of bucolic celebrities. The pages show the authoress to have a keen and observant eye for nature, and to be "a lover . . . of all that we behold from this green earth."

Kitton (Frederic G.). *The Dickens country*. London: A. & C. Black. 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. xiv. + 236. *Illust.* Price 6s.

A descriptive account of the localities associated with the life and novels of Charles Dickens.

A volume of the Pilgrimage Series, profusely illustrated, and forming a first-rate guide to the literary pilgrim in quest of original scenes and local colour for impressions of Dickens and his characters.

Metcalf (Maynard M.). *An Outline of the theory of organic evolution, with a description of some of the phenomena which it explains*. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1904. 8°, 2¾", pp. xxii. + 204. *Illust.* Price 12s. 6d. net.

An elementary manual for biological students, profusely illustrated with coloured and other pictures.

An attractive and interesting introduction to the science of biology and the theory of evolution, not too difficult for young people, nor too "popular" in treatment to repel the more advanced student.

Pepys (Samuel) *Diary . . .* Edited with additions by Henry B. Wheatley. London: G. Bell & Sons. 1904-5. 8°, 7½", vols. 5, 6, 7. Price 5s. net. each.

A further instalment of Mr. Wheatley's elaborate edition of Pepys, carrying the diary from July 1665 to April 1668.

Anson (W. S. W.). Who wrote that? A dictionary of quotations of literary origin in common use . . . London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd. [1905.] Sm. 8°, 4", pp. 208. Price 1s. net.

Latham (Edward). Who said that? A dictionary of famous sayings, with their source. London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd. [1905.] Sm. 8°, 4", pp. 160. Price 1s. net.

Swan (Helena). Christian names, male and female. London: G. Routledge & Sons, Ltd. [1905.] Sm. 8°, 4", pp. 116. Price 1s. net.

The three works above noted are useful additions to Routledge's Reference Library, and should be found of great service for desk and private purposes.

Goodchild (G. F.) and C. F. **Tweney**. A Technological and Scientific dictionary. Part VIII. Nap. Pet. Price 1s. net.

A further instalment of this valuable work of reference.



LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE fifth sessional meeting of this Association was held at 20, Hanover Square, on March 20th, 1905, when about 20 members attended. Mr. Jas. Duff Brown (Islington) was voted to the chair, and after the transaction of some preliminary business, it was announced that Mr. T. W. Lyster, M.A., of Dublin, had been unable to complete his paper on "Some Notes on Panizzi and the Department of Printed Books in the Forties," and it was resolved to have it reserved for a future occasion. Mr. Thomas Aldred (Southwark) then read his paper on

THE CUTTER CLASSIFICATION,

which proved to be a careful analysis of its notation, scientific basis, and value as compared with the Decimal system. He also circulated copies of a scheme for the incorporation of the Patent Office subject-classification with the Cutter divisions for the Arts and Sciences. The discussion was opened by Mr. E. Wyndham Hulme (Patent Office), and continued by Messrs. Kettle (Guildhall), Savage (Bromley), Jast (Croydon), Newlands (Willesden), Prideaux (Royal College of Physicians), the Chairman and Mr. Gill (St. Olave's).

The discussion turned mainly on the comparative advantages and disadvantages of alphabetical and numerical notations, and on the whole it was evident that the feeling of the majority of the speakers was against the symbols used with the Cutter system.

At this meeting the Library Association severed its long connection with the convenient and comfortable rooms at 20, Hanover Square, which will doubtless be regretted by all members, and in future the meetings will be held at the London School of Economics, Clare Market, close to Lincoln's Inn Fields and the Strand at the Law Courts. Here on Monday, April 17th, the next monthly meeting will be held, when Mr. E. A. Baker, M.A. (Wallasey) will read a paper on "Book Annotation."

THE PSEUDONYMS.

THE usual meeting of the Pseudonyms was held in the old Aerated Bread Shop de Soho early in March, when the customary banquet of *recherché* kick-shaws was served. One-of-the-Best occupied the chair, and in the lulls of the reminiscences poured forth by He-that-will-not-when-he-may, managed to air his views on newsrooms. The chief feature of the evening was the unexpected appearance of the long-absent He-that-will-not-when-he-may, who made up for previous non-attendances by ceaseless outpourings of loving and respectful references to his fellow-members and others.

One-of-the-Best pleaded for complete reconsideration of the Newsroom question on every ground—(a) The need for reorganization on modern lines calculated to bring it up-to-date; (b) The necessity for attracting a larger, more intelligent and better class of reader; (c) The provision of means for the suppression of loafers and undesirables; and (d) a more serious attempt to limit the provision of newspapers. On every point the members were for once practically unanimous, and the discussion proved, beyond all doubt, that librarians are seriously considering the Newsroom question on novel lines. One practical result will doubtless be the limitation, or gradual elimination, of the daily newspaper element, and the substitution of the best scientific, artistic, trade, political and literary magazines of world-wide fame. Another result will be the suppression of the snippet magazine, and the general tendency to provide an undue proportion of literary-pictorial trash will doubtless be checked. Throughout the discussion the Pseudonyms wisely confined themselves to the *contents* of News or Reading Rooms, and made no attempt to justify the abolition of Newsrooms, or the suppression of such accommodation. It would be well if in other quarters, such as the *Library World*, Library Assistants Association, Northern Counties Library Association, etc., the question were similarly narrowed down to a common-sense discussion of contents, and not spread over all kinds of irrelevant aspects of the theme.



CORRESPONDENCE.

o o o

SIR,—In your report of the February Meeting of the Library Association, contained in the March issue of your journal you state:—

“Mr. Chennell (Willesden) raised the question of outside influences being directed towards the determination of library appointments, and objected to the qualifications for librarianships demanded in certain recent advertisements, which he seemed to think were dictated by outside agencies interested in one set of ideas and calculated to exclude many deserving candidates.”

I wish simply to point out that no such utterance came from me. In no portion of my remarks did I touch upon “qualifications for Librarianship in certain recent advertisements.” I can but admire the creative faculty employed in the construction of your report of the Meeting, but would commend to you Hawthorne’s advice “to keep the imagination sane.”

Willesden Green Public Library.

FRANK E. CHENNELL.

[We are very pleased to receive this letter.—EDITOR.]

 MONTROSE AND OPEN ACCESS.

SIR,—Knowing that you take an interest in the progress of the Open Access system, I send you the enclosed extract from *The Montrose Standard* referring to a recent meeting of the Public Library Committee:—

“Rector Strong, Convener of the Book Committee, reported on a tour he had made through eight or nine of the leading Public Libraries in London to ascertain the respective merits of the Indicator system and the safeguarded Open Access system of giving out the books. He strongly favoured the latter. He found that where that system had displaced the Indicator system there was an immediate advance in the issue, and in most cases a decline in fiction. His committee unanimously agreed to recommend that they urge upon the Town Council the desirability of adopting the safeguarded Open Access system, and that the slight alterations which were necessary should be proceeded with.

Councillor J. G. Milne, in seconding, expressed the Committee’s indebtedness to Rector Strong for going to London and spending three days there at his own expense. The reason why fiction went down with the system he favoured was quite clear. In the Indicator system, a man went to the library determined to take out a novel, and having made up his mind did so. When he had the safeguarded Open Access system he got admission to the books

and came away with something better than a novel. The system was displacing the Indicator system, and was evidently the system of the future. He thought Montrose should certainly take the excellent opportunity of setting the fashion of libraries instead of following it."

Mr. J. A. Grant, the architect, stated that the adoption of the system would save £70 of initial expenses. This report seems to put the case very pertinently.

A. G. MACNAB.

[It is true that we "take an interest" in the safeguarded Open Access system, but we by no means close our eyes to the other side, and welcome any temperately worded contributions favouring the Indicator or other methods, in order that the question may be fairly considered.

Notwithstanding statements which have been made to the contrary, we have no private ends to serve by the advocacy of any system.—EDITOR.]

THE QUESTION OF OCTAVOS.

SIR,—As I presume your readers are mainly librarians, they have doubtless read the correspondence initiated by me in the "Publisher's Circular" relative to an action in the Westminster County Court, viz., *Wesley & Son v. Newland*.

Although the case was decided in favour of the plaintiffs I think you will agree that the facts are altogether in mine, and that no other course than to refuse the book was possible.

Harlesden Public Library,
March 14th, 1905.

H. S. NEWLAND.

[The action above referred to arose owing to Mr. Newland returning a book to the plaintiffs as "not according to their report." The work was stated to be an "8vo." edition, and as Mr. Newland had other reports of the same work in crown 8vo., he selected the 8vo. edition, but on receipt found it to be a crown.

On the case being heard the Registrar would only accept the evidence of witnesses, the defendant producing printed support from the Trade. None being present on either side, the judge (refusing to adjourn the case), found for the plaintiffs.

Thus the defendant was not given an opportunity of justifying his action, although the Editor of *The Publisher's Circular*, Mr. Joseph Shaylor of "Simpkins," and numerous secondhand booksellers in London and the Provinces have expressed an opinion that an 8vo. is recognized as one size viz., *demy 8vo.*]

SIR,—The press recently reported a case in which Mr. H. S. Newland, of the Public Library, Harlesden, was sued by a firm of booksellers for the sum of 6s., the price of a book supplied. Mr. Newland, contending that the book was not as described in the plaintiff's catalogue, refused to accept it, his point being that the plaintiffs stated that the book was an "8vo.," whereas it was really a crown 8vo.

The moral of the case (which went against the defendant) is that it is high time some uniform nomenclature was adopted for the sizes of books. As a reader of *The Library World* I have noted that in your "Book Selector" section you adopt the admirable method of stating after 8vo., the height of title-page in inches. The only objection to this appears to be that in the case of second-hand books which have been re-bound, the original height will probably have been somewhat reduced.

The symbol 8vo. standing alone means practically nothing ; often seventeenth century and later books, were printed on pott 8vo. pages, hardly 6" in height, while imperial 8vos. measuring 11" are not infrequent, and between the two we have 8vos. of foolscap, post, crown, large post, demy, royal, &c. All are 8vos. in true sense, though not in the sense understood by some of the craft, viz., demy 8vo.

The Library World circulating so largely among librarians seems to be the best of mediums for evolving a definite system of expressing sizes of books which would render such a case as that referred to impossible, and be of advantage to all who have to do with library catalogues.

H. W. LEWER.

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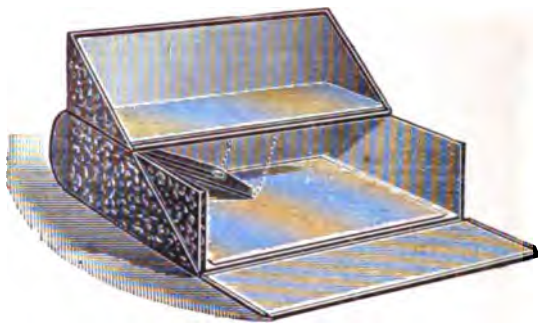
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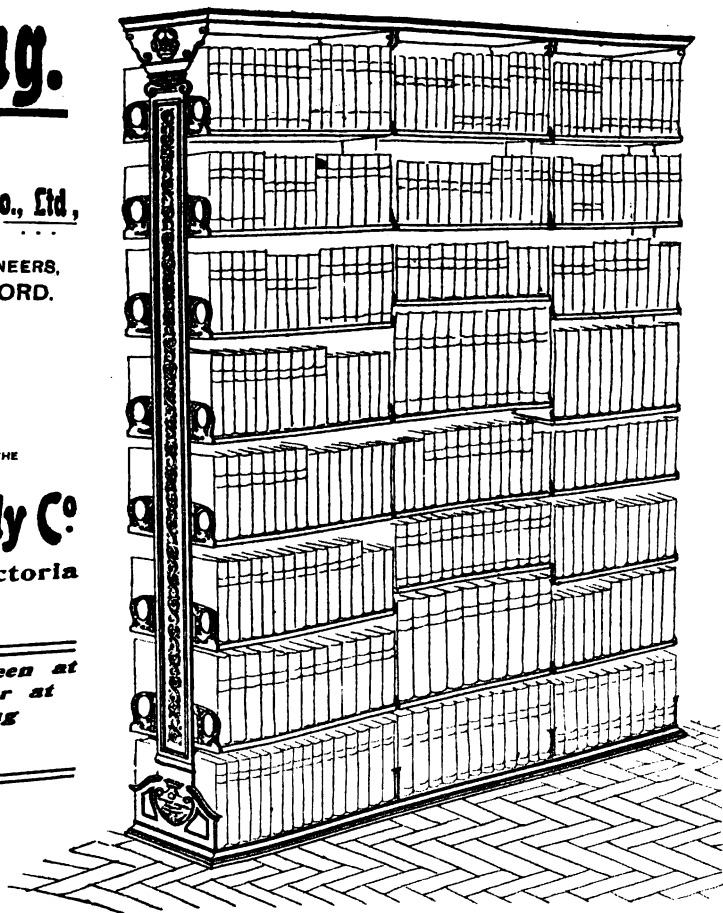
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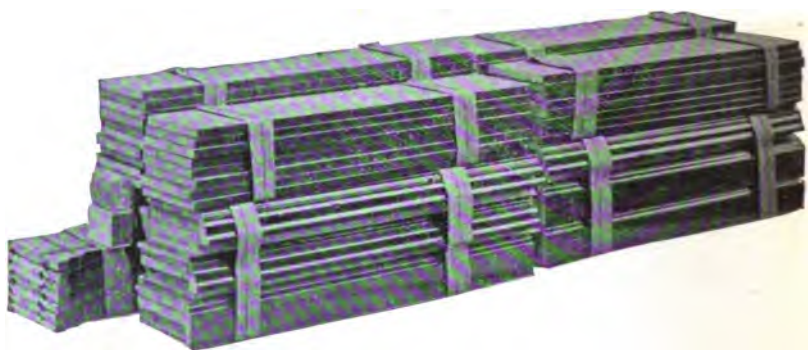
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III.

ARRANGEMENT OF CONTENTS.

12. Hitherto, we have discussed the advisability of issuing a magazine, and have entered with some degree of minuteness into the underlying financial principles; we now have to consider the arrangement of the contents. So much controversy has raged over the question of classified *versus* dictionary or alphabetical cataloguing, that it will be unnecessary to recapitulate the pros and cons. On the whole, the classified method has met with most favour, and experience has taught us that it is undoubtedly the better for magazine purposes. In this, we are in accordance with nearly all librarians publishing magazines. Indeed, in magazine work, where as a rule only one entry is given to a book, the alphabetical method is inadequate. It resolves itself into an alphabetical list either under authors' names, or under catchword subjects which is useless in showing the relation of one book to another. A properly classified list—preferably classified according to some recognized systematic scheme—on the other hand, displays the accessions to the library much more effectively, and does fulfil the necessary function just mentioned.

13. Where practicable, an alphabetical index to authors may be added. This is done in the case of the Manchester Public Library bulletin, and is, we believe, found very useful. Such an index may be so cut down as to take up very little room and yet be perfectly clear; but as we propose to deal with indexes later, we will not enlarge upon them here. In any case, a yearly title-page and index must be supplied. Where a magazine runs into a number of yearly volumes, it is also a very good—and, indeed, necessary—plan to issue every five years a cumulative index to the five volumes. Such an index is invaluable for quick reference.

14. In our introductory article, we dealt very briefly with the question of suitable and unsuitable contents matter; but this is of such importance that it will be advisable to examine it more fully. As we said before, the primary function of the magazine is to provide fully descriptive lists of additions. We are agreed upon the advisability of classifying the lists, but there are other matters of arrangement to be considered. Thus, if there is more than one library, as in the case of

a central library with branches, shall a separate list be printed for each library or shall the list be a "union" one? When the two methods are compared there can really be very little doubt as to the superiority of the union list. When separate lists are printed for each library, the matter swells to three or four times the bulk, with a corresponding increase in cost; and with it all, it is no clearer than the union list. Let us take the case of a library with three branches. Suppose that during the period covered by the magazine, two hundred books had been added to the central, and one hundred (being a selection of the most important of the two hundred) to each of the branches. Now, if separate lists were printed for each library, it would mean that five hundred entries would have to be printed. On the other hand, by employing the union list two hundred would be all that would be required. It is obvious that this means an enormous saving of money, space and labour. Taking the same case, let us see what a union entry would look like compared with the others.

Assuming that there is a Central, Reference, and North, South and West Branches:—

UNION METHOD.

Sweet, Henry. Student's Dictionary of Anglo-Saxon.
1897. **CRNSW** 429

ORDINARY METHOD.

Central Library.

Sweet, Henry. Student's Dictionary of Anglo-Saxon.
1897. 429

Reference Library.

Sweet, Henry. Student's Dictionary of Anglo-Saxon.
1897. 429
and so on for each branch, making five entries in all.

This union entry is for a book contained in all departments: if it were only in the Central lending library and the South branch, the union letters would, of course, be **CS**; and so on for any other variations. Nor is it only from a point of economy that we advocate the union list. It displays readily the resources of the whole library system, a convenience sufficiently obvious, especially when viewed in relation to the card catalogue, of which, as we shall presently see, each entry is to become a part. The main objection urged against the union list is that in the case of a closed library the charging number must be given for each copy. Even in this case it will be far more economical to display the numbers after the departmental symbols thus: **C14168 R2136 N3175 S2189 W5932**, than to enter the whole book-entry separately for each. The combined numbers may appear clumsy, but they are quite convenient in working. We do not go so far as to advocate the American suggestion of amalgamating in actual practice the lending and reference books. We think, however, that the catalogue should show the possessions of the

two departments in *one* place under their respective subject headings. This is an extension of the union method which we have seldom seen adopted, but we believe it is a method of the future. This union method should be carried into all lists, whether lists of additions, reading lists, or any others.

15. The provision of reading lists is the second important function fulfilled by the library magazine. In order to keep the interest of readers to the best advantage, at least one reading list should be supplied in each number. When we say at least one, we do not mean that several should be provided, but that the magazine should never be without one; and of course if necessity arise, there is no reason why several may not be supplied. A great point to remember, however, is that the magazine is a list of additions with various features added, not a collection of various features among which there is incidentally a list of additions. As regards the subjects upon which reading lists may be compiled, there should not be much difficulty. Topical subjects are always available for treatment. For example, there are at present: Russia, the War in the Far East, Free Trade and Protection, Parliament, and many other smaller subjects. Then subjects of special local interest are continually arising, and much mutual benefit will accrue from co-operating with University Extension lecturers by providing reading lists on the subject of the lectures. Altogether, it will frequently be found that the difficulty lies not in finding a subject, but in selecting from several.

16. Library notes and news form another section of the contents. These must not be of a gossip or snippety character, but must be confined to reports on the work of the institution, statements of new rules or alterations of old ones, and of course accounts of any particular movement in local library history. Statistics of issue, etc., for the period since the last issue of the magazine, reports on donations, and changes in the periodicals list, complete this section.

17. The preceding features will in many cases be all that space will allow. In some cases, however, it will be possible to add other features. Perhaps the best of these is the short bibliographical article dealing with some matter of permanent rather than topical interest. This is an exceedingly attractive form of bibliography—we use the word in its utilitarian sense—and presents the resources of the library in a way that can hardly be surpassed. If a library contains any special collections, such as a collection of photographs, it is a good plan to describe them in a series of "Special Catalogues."

Librarians will doubtless have their own ideas as to other features, but whatever is added should be in keeping with the ideals of the library and its magazine, and nothing should be added until the matters dealt with in sections 14-16 have been treated.

18. The arrangement of the contents is no doubt very much a matter of personal opinion. Nevertheless, we give an arrangement which has been proved good by actual experience.

MODEL CONTENTS SHOWING ARRANGEMENT OF MATTER. Page.

The Reader's Note-Book, 9:

English Essayists

Notes and News:

Statistics for January-March

Donations

Periodicals List: Corrections

Special Ticket for School Teachers

Re-arrangement of the Lending Library

Additions to the Libraries:

General Works

Philosophy

Religion

Sociology

Philology

Science

Useful Arts

Fine Arts

Recreative Arts

Literature

Poetry and Drama

History

Travel

Biography:

Collective

Individual

Fiction

Juveniles

Index to Additions

Reading Lists, 23:

The War in the Far East

Special Catalogues, 3:

Circulating Collection of Photographs

The first item, "The Reader's Note-Nook," is simply a running title given to the bibliographical articles; any other title would answer equally well.

IV.

CATALOGUING MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUE.

19. Most libraries already have their special kinds of cataloguing material, but for purposes of reference, as well as for the sake of completeness, we give particulars of use-tested varieties. Catalogue slips for the entries proper should be $8\frac{1}{2} \times 2$ ", of strong white paper, and ruled feint with one red marginal line an inch from the left. For annotated cataloguing, this slip is the best size; if made larger, a

considerable waste of material takes place, and the slips are less easy to handle. In addition to this white slip, it is advisable to have others, similar in size and ruling, but of coloured paper. These will be found useful for cataloguing special collections, or for reading lists, the colour acting as a check against the entries mixing with general additions. If matter is kept standing for any length of time this is the most necessary precaution. Two colours, light blue and pink, will be found amply sufficient. As annotated entries are to be employed, it will be necessary to have small slips of plain paper on which to draft out the notes. These should be $4\frac{1}{4} \times 2$ ", or half the size of the catalogue slips. If indexes are to be made, other slips of the same size but of ruled paper will be needed.

20. We have laid so much stress upon the absolute necessity of having perfectly finished copy for the printers, that we give here a brief code for writing catalogue slips. It may seem very elementary to many of our readers, but the haphazard methods in use at present justify its inclusion.

RULES FOR WRITING CATALOGUE SLIPS.

a. Begin the entry at the left edge. Run over at the marginal line, or indent 1".

b. Leave a space of $\frac{1}{4}$ " between all items save imprint items (illustrations, volumes, date, etc.), between which leave $\frac{1}{4}$ ". The union letters (in example "**CNSW**") and the location or class number, go at the extreme end of the entry, next the right edge of the slip.

c. Write the letters for the libraries close together as one word, without abbreviation stops, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ " between them and the location number, as "**CNSW** 370." If charging numbers are given to each letter, leave $\frac{1}{4}$ " between one library's letter and number, and next, as "**G1134 N3791**."

d. Begin contents notes and annotations at the marginal line. Run over at the extreme right edge of the slip. This brings the first line of the note below the runover (if any) of the entry.

e. If an entry occupies more than one slip, the continuation slip should have the class number, author (surname only), a brief title, and the number of the slip (according to whether it is the second, third, fourth, &c., of the entry), written on the back in the lower left-hand corner. *Thus:*

374 Black. Self-Culture. 2.

If the slips should get separated, this reference will enable them to be brought together again.

f. Footnotes, if any, should be written beneath a line about 1" in length, its centre being above the first letter of the note. Number notes and matter referred from by superior figures, ¹, ², ³, &c. The numbering of the footnotes is independent for every entry, the printer renumbering when the matter is set up in pages.

g. Mark *italics* by underlining once ; **SMALL CAPITALS** with a broken line (— — — — —) ; **Clarendon** upper and lower case with a double line ; and **CLARENDON CAPITALS** with three or more lines according to size wanted. *Rule all lines.*

h. *Write neatly and plainly.* Cultivate a small, clear, upright hand. Avoid running over on to a second slip, as far as possible. *Always carefully revise each slip before laying it aside.* If a mistake be made, unless it permits of neat and absolutely clear correction, destroy the slip, and write out another.

21. Annotations should be first written out on the plain white slip, not on the catalogue slip. When the slips are checked, the annotation may be revised. After this has been done, it can be written on the catalogue slip finally and without likelihood of corrections. By doing this, and by following out the simple instructions given above, it is possible to arrive at copy as clear as can be desired.

(*To be continued.*)



THE CLASSIFICATION OF FICTION.

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PROPOSALS for the exact classification of fiction are not new, and in spite of the manifest difficulties of the undertaking, attempts have actually been made to carry out such proposals in various catalogues and special works, especially in the realm of historical fiction. We are reminded of these various efforts by the receipt of an American venture, which, though not quite new, may still be sufficiently novel to most English librarians to afford a text on which to base a few remarks on the whole question. The work referred to is

Bulletin of the Free Library of Philadelphia, Number 5 : A Contribution to the classification of works of Prose Fiction. Being a classified and annotated dictionary catalogue of the works of prose fiction in the Wagner Institute Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia. By O. R. Howard Thomson, assistant librarian-in-charge of that Branch. 2nd edition. Philadelphia, 1904, pp. 308.

It is the outcome of a discussion among members of the Keystone State Library Association in 1901, and doubtless represents the present state of feeling towards fiction classification now prevailing in the minds of a fair number of American librarians. What this feeling is may be gathered from the contents of the Bulletin now before us, added to which it may be stated that the compilers and sponsors of the list manifestly feel bound by certain restrictions and limitations which tend to qualify the value of the compilation. The Bulletin is not a classifi-

cation at all, in the strict sense of the word, but an ordinary dictionary-catalogue of novels, arranged under authors' names, titles of works, and occasional subject-headings. Annotations are added to a number of entries, particularly if representative of historical novels, and at the end of nearly every entry is a brief tag, giving, in abbreviated form, an indication of the subject of the book, or the main class to which it belongs. Thus :—

Auerbach.	Brigitta	...	...	...	Ger. life.
Connolly.	Out of Gloucester	...	...	...	Sea tales.
Hero of a hundred fights	...	...	...	...	Gen.
James.	Roderick Hudson	...	...	...	Psych.
Mundt.	Henry VIII. and his court...	...	...	...	Hist. Eng.

Other guide-words are added, such as "juv." and at the end is an "Index to the historical and legendary characters mentioned as appearing in the novels." The only appearance of "classification" appears in a preliminary table of Class Headings, as follows :—

CLASS HEADINGS.

(resolvable into Dewey numbers.)

100 Philosophical	400 Philological
Psychological	500 Natural Science
Ethical	Animal Life
200 Religious	600 Useful Arts
300 Sociological	700 Fine Arts
Economic	800 Literature
Social Classes	900 Historical (sub-divided)
Customs	910 Travel—descriptive
Legendary and mythological	B Biographical

SUPPLEMENTARY HEADINGS.

Adventures	Life (sub-divided and appearing under the names of countries)
American Indians	Military tales
Character Sketches	School Tales
Detective Tales	Sea Tales

Most of these classes are represented in the topical lists scattered in alphabetical order through the work, but no attempt is made to bring together related subjects, even under the topical headings just mentioned. For instance, under the head "Historical American (Discovery to revolution)," novels relating to Columbus are not assembled at one place, but spread all over the entry. It is the same at other collected entries, and the work suffers accordingly, and its claim to be considered "a classification" should be abandoned. In many respects, save as regards annotations, it resembles the catalogues put out before, many years ago, at Boston (Mass.) and San Francisco, and it will serve as an additional quarry for the classification-builder who comes along later, and, by using the combined labours of Nield, Baker,

Boston, Finsbury, San Francisco, and others, succeeds in producing an actual Classified Catalogue or Bibliography of Fiction.

This catalogue, being confined to the collection of a particular library, is necessarily limited in many directions, but in none more than in its poor representation of those epoch-making novels which form the subject-matter of many literary histories. We should have thought that, as a counterbalance to the mass of American fictional puerilities with which the catalogue abounds, the compilers would have taken the trouble to buy the chief masterpieces of fiction, if only for the sake of appearances. A so-called "classification" of fiction which omits works like Swift's "Gulliver's Travels," "The Arabian Nights," Malory's "Morte d'Arthur," Boccaccio, Rabelais, Lyly's "Euphues," Lodge's "Rosalynde," Richardson's "Pamela," Chateaubriand, Conscience, Lermontov, &c., not to mention many important single works of other more modern authors, should be content with a much less ambitious title. However, as we said before, the catalogue within its limitations is a good quarry for future workers, and as such has our hearty commendation.

Coming now to a consideration of the general principles on which the classification of fiction should proceed, there is no doubt that, subject to certain qualifications, a collection of novels could be distributed over the main classes of any scheme of systematic classification like Dewey's or Cutter's, without much trouble. For example, every kind of "Utopia," or imaginary state or community, described in fictional form, could be placed in Dewey's 320-1, and so be brought into immediate association with all relative social literature. Indeed, the question now is not so much one of classifying fiction or leaving it alone, as boldly attacking the whole subject and demolishing at one stroke the artificial barriers which at present shut off the imaginative side of literature from its logical place in a scheme of book classification. While one recognizes the importance of *form* in this particular case, there seems no reason why, in the preparation of classified catalogues and bibliographies, prose fiction and poetry should not be treated exactly the same as other contributions to the literature of special subjects. It would be impossible to carry out such a process of classification on the shelves of a library without duplicating the books, but in a classified catalogue no such impossibility exists. Both novels and epic poems treat of many different subjects capable of being classified along with more exact works, and, as they represent a standpoint of the highest importance and attractiveness, they should be dealt with in future with much less regard to mere form. A difficulty exists in the case of many single works of imagination which treat of more than one theme. Take Collins' "Man and Wife," for example, which deals so effectively with the Irish and Scottish marriage laws as its main subject, yet has as an important subsidiary topic the excessive devotion to sport and physical culture which prevailed, as at present, in the England of 1870. Then there is a very useful minor theme, in a detailed description of a secret method of murder, which might also be classified under a head like "Practical Criminology," as a subdivision of Dewey's

343. But these imaginative works present no real difficulty in a classified catalogue, where their subject-matter can easily be repeated under every appropriate heading of sufficient importance.

Our plea, then, is for the immediate recognition of prose fiction and poetry as repositories of subject-matter which ought to be properly classified, instead of being allowed, as at present, to remain unexplored and unused. We wish to see in our library catalogues, both dictionary and classified, poetry and fiction taking their place as contributions towards the literature of important subjects. A poem or novel on Shakespeare, or London, or the Humming Bird, or Courage, or Love, or the Poor Laws, has just as much right to be properly catalogued under such subjects as an essay or single treatise. When this is even partially done, it will add enormously to the resources of ordinary libraries.



THE NATIONAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF WALES.

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WE have not space to dwell upon the claims being put forward by various towns to secure the location of these important institutions within their borders, but we may mention that ever since the announcement appeared that the Treasury would make a grant for the purpose of building and maintaining the Library and Museum, Cardiff has made strenuous efforts to comply with the condition laid down by the Treasury, that local financial assistance should be provided, and nearly £36,000 has already been promised locally, and a site valued at £20,000, together with valuable collections.

Aberystwith puts in a strong claim both financially and on the ground that wheresoever the buildings may be, Aberystwith has possession already of the most valuable MSS. and early books in the principality. A site worth £2,500 would be presented, and £20,000 raised for building.

Swansea's chief ground for the claim is that the rich collections of the Royal Institution will form a nucleus of great value, and financial assistance is promised to the extent of a site and buildings worth £45,000, and a building fund of £10,000.

Carnarvon and some few other towns are also in the field, but the three already referred to are pushing their respective claims with the most energy.

The Committee of the Privy Council will hold their first meeting to consider the various claims on May 13th.

BY-THE-WAY NOTES.

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IT was quite a striking, if not amusing, exhibition which was displayed on the walls of the library committee room at Swansea the other day, viz., the leading London and provincial papers, bearing extraordinary shapes and designs, caused by the defacement, by the blacking process, of the racing intelligence!

BISHOP de Bury, who wrote early in the 14th century, lamenting the neglect of literature by the clergy, and others who were sufficiently educated to read the MSS. of his day, perpetrated this parable:—"In the first place we [books] are expelled from the homes of the clergy, appropriated to us by hereditary rights, to some interior chamber, or are banished to suffer opprobrium out of doors; our places, moreover, are occupied by hounds and hawks, and sometimes by a biped beast—woman to wit—whose company was formerly shunned by the clergy, from whom we have ever taught our pupils to fly more than from the asp; wherefore this beast, ever jealous of our studies, and at all times incapable, spying us at last in a corner, protected only by the web of some long deceased spider, laughed us to scorn." Had the good Bishop lived in our day he would have found many lady students by no means "incapable"!

No doubt some of our librarian friends meet with amusing incidents to brighten the monotony of their labours. At the lending counter of a library at Hull a young girl was heard to whisper to her sister, "Don't get one of Miss Braddon's books. Ma will want to read it, and we shall have to wash up the supper things."

Our friend at Stoke-upon-Trent tells us he was recently applied to for Ralicha Relly's "God's Good Man"!

WE confess to much preference for "inviting," comfortable-looking library buildings rather than the official, board-school-like erections so often seen. But "inviting" houses may have one little drawback if the following true incident is of frequent occurrence. A polite assistant-librarian discovered a dirty individual looking anxiously at various doors opening from the entrance hall, on enquiring which room the dirty person wished to find, the assistant was surprised to hear, "why the blooming tap, I want a pint of 'alf and 'alf"!

Miss Olivette Taylor, of the Robert Browning Settlement at Walworth, is appealing for pictures, good prints, coloured illustrations, &c., to loan out in poor homes, conducting her work on the lines of lending libraries. We wish success to her philanthropic efforts, and hope she will not be disappointed in the results.

LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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[*Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.*]

As may be surmised from our note in the last issue of *The Library World*, we were not surprised to find opposition to the scheme for amalgamating the London Institution and the Society of Arts too strong to be overcome at the meeting of the London Institution, held under Lord Avebury's presidency, on April 12th. An amendment to the motion for uniting the organizations, deferring the matter till after the annual meeting on April 28th, was proposed by Dr. Freshfield and accepted. We agree with Sir Homewood Crawford, who remarked that "it was perfectly clear the scheme could not be carried without the approval of Parliament, and so great was the opposition to it that it would mean the frittering away of their limited income. He believed their property in Finsbury Square was worth £250,000, and to barter that away for the privilege of joining the Society of Arts was ridiculous."

THE Public Libraries Amendment Bill, by which it is sought to remove the rate limitation of 1d. in the £, is once more before Parliament, under the care of Mr. H. J. Tennant, M.P., who took charge of this measure before. In the present state of public business it is almost hopeless to expect more than a possible ventilation of the question—a fate which will probably also overtake the Bill which has again been introduced for the purpose of extending the Public Libraries Acts to County Council areas. The only hope for these Bills is to keep on patiently reviving them till the Legislature braces itself up to the task of revising the library law.

Batley.—The Carnegie Library and Clock Tower are illustrated in *The Building News*, March 31st.

"The site is a very fine one, standing on the top of the Market Estate, and well above the level of the principal street of the town. The main entrance is from the Market Square, and direct communication is obtained to the public space of the lending library. The public space of the above also acts as central hall, or approach to all parts of the building. By this means all the entrances and exits of departments are under the direct supervision of the attendants. The accommodation consists of messroom, repairing room, stores, and general conveniences in basement. Lending hall and public space, reading room, magazine room, ladies' room, librarian's room, and entrances on ground floor. Reference room and reference reading room or gallery, passages, &c., on first floor. The lighting is by means of large windows with top lights to lending hall, with electric light for artificial purposes."

Bethnal Green.—Contributions towards the support of the Public Library being solicited in connection with its twenty-ninth anniversary, the Bishop of London testifies to the good work done by the library, with which he was well acquainted during his residence at the East End.

Bootle.—Mr. Charles H. Hunt, the Librarian, is to be congratulated upon the success of the series of free lectures delivered in the Central Public Library. The lectures have proved immensely popular during the winter season.

Boston (U.S.).—The splendid bronze doors of the Public Library, which were designed by Daniel Chester French and took eleven years in making, afford the subject of an illustrated description in *The Century Magazine* for April. From the plate given of one pair, we can judge of the excellence of the work throughout.

Calcutta.—On March 19th a largely attended meeting of Indian gentlemen was held to inaugurate the Rammohan Library, in Upper Circular Road, which has been recently started with the object of promoting the intellectual development of the people of the native quarter of the town.

Ceylon.—The Dimbula Library is about to be removed from its old quarters, the following proposal having been unanimously accepted :—
“ That the Trustees agree to the removal of the library to the Talawakele Club on or before the 1st of May, on the understanding that proper accommodation is provided and all possible care taken of the books, the Library Trustees agreeing to pay the Syndicate Rs 15 a month out of their funds. The library is not to be removed without six months' notice on either side.”

Mrs. James Ryan, Glendmerra, has consented to become the honorary secretary to the library.

Chelmsford.—A councillor waxed warm over the “ simply monstrous ” decision of the Town Council to pay £150 per annum salary to a librarian and curator, showing that some place pays its librarian but 25s. per week ! All we can say is that Chelmsford will be fortunate indeed to obtain the services of a man, competent to control both library and museum, for £150 per annum.

Crieff (N.B.).—The Taylor's Trust Free Library has seriously suffered from a fire which occurred on April 11th. Fire and the water used to extinguish the conflagration have injured hundreds of volumes, and destroyed many expensive fittings, including an indicator.

Darwen.—We are glad to see that the matter referred to in our January issue has passed through satisfactorily, the Corporation having now accepted Dr. Carnegie's offer.

Dukinfield.—Dr. Carnegie's offer of £2,500 for the building of a Public Library not being acceptable to the Town Council, owing to the cost of up-keep of a library, Mr. Alderman Pratt has come to the rescue by a generous offer to bear, for the first five years, whatsoever expenses may be incurred beyond the proceeds of a penny rate.

Dunfermline.—At the court held on April 5th, the Carnegie Dunfermline Trustees were authorized to erect a Public Library and other buildings on their ground at Main Street, Townhill.

Dungannon.—The Earl of Ranfurly has promised to give a site for a Public Library, Dr. Carnegie having offered £1,000 on certain conditions. At present the Urban Council has not adopted the Act.

Exeter.—An effort is being made to induce the City Council to adopt the Museums and Gymnasiums Act (1891), in order that more financial aid may be afforded to the library, museum, and art gallery. The Library Committee has resolved to issue a "Non-Fiction" in addition to the "General Ticket" and "Music Ticket" already in vogue. This ticket will not be available for magazines.

Gloucester.—The librarian, Mr. R. Austin, invites those who are interested in the photographic record of the county to communicate with him. At present little progress has been made, but this is not surprising, as the movement commenced only this winter; the bright days of summer should bring many sun-pictures to the Public Library.

Govan (N.B.).—The Elder Library was the subject of a double plate in *The Architect* of March 17th, showing the front with its classic columnar entrance. A plate of like size in the same paper's issue of April 7th gives the simple, but effective, back view. The whole building is of one floor only, and is so striking a departure from the ordinary type that we call attention to these illustrations of Mr. John J. Burnet's architectural work.

Guildford.—Mr. F. H. Elsley, the librarian, reports that the Guildford and Working Men's Institute held their annual meeting on Tuesday, April 11th. The number of members is a record, viz., 1,650, and the number of books issued is 44,565. The debt on the Institute building has been reduced from £1,000 to £500, mainly through a legacy of £360 from Mrs. John Cooke, the remainder being subscribed by the members.

Hamburg.—We learn from *The Athenæum* that a central lending library for the blind has been opened at Hamburg. The volumes will be placed at the disposal of the blind in all parts of Germany, and no fee is to be charged. The library contains books on all subjects—devotional works, general literature, science, history, &c.—and includes works in English, Greek, Latin, French, &c.

Hull.—The new Carnegie Public Library (a branch of the central library) is situated in West Park, close to the Anlaby Road. Mr. J. H. Hirst, who designed the building to accord with its park surroundings, has provided something pleasantly different from any ordinary type of exterior. It is of one story, covered by a red-tiled roof, projecting over a wide verandah, a half-timber low tower ending the line of roof. The lending library is in the tower portion of the area, which has a bold projection of less altitude; the reading-room being accommodated in the main part of the building and containing thirteen tables. There is no newspaper-room.

Johannesburg.—The Seymour Memorial Library was dedicated, on March 1st, by the Mayor and a representative body of gentlemen. The library starts well, the amount in hand, after paying for books, furniture and fixtures, being £9,948. Accommodation is provided for about 12,000 volumes, which will be under the care of the Council of the Technical Institute. £8,000 is to be invested in order to provide a maintenance fund. The library is a worthy memorial of Major Seymour, the distinguished engineer who lost his life in action at Sand River.

Kinross (N.B.).—On April 15th, the foundation-stone of the Public Library was laid by Sir Basil Montgomery, who gave the site for the erection of the building. Dr. Carnegie provides £1,800.

Larne.—The *Larne Times* of April 1st gave, as a supplement, an illustration of the new Public Library. From this we gather that the building is very attractive, and does credit to the architect, Mr. N. Fitzsimons, of Belfast. It is apparently well situated on open space, backed by trees.

Leamington.—A portrait of Alderman Dr. Thursfield, who has held the office of chairman of the Public Library Committee for twenty-five years, is to be placed in the Reference room.

Miss M. Dormer Harris wrote to the committee that, in making a list of books on various subjects in the reference library, she had discovered

"the wealth of good books in the reference library, and she earnestly asked the committee to devise some means whereby the Leamington people might become better acquainted with the treasures behind the counter. A catalogue, though indispensable, was a clumsy instrument in the hands of the vague-minded or busy general reader. What he wanted was a sight of the books in their shelves. This would teach him more of the resources of the library in fifteen minutes than several days' plodding through the catalogue."

We quite agree with the views expressed by Miss Dormer Harris.

Llanelly.—Sir Arthur Stepney seems to be a good friend to the Public Library. At the committee meeting, held at the end of March, the chairman, Mr. Robert Stuart, said "they had received a very valuable addition to their library from Sir Arthur Stepney. The volumes had been chosen by Mr. E. Evans and the librarian from the library at The Dell. They could not let the present opportunity pass without expressing their appreciation of the very valuable gift. It was almost a regular thing every month to recognize the generosity of Sir Arthur, and they did it on this occasion with a very full heart. Sir Arthur had almost eclipsed himself this time. He moved that the hearty thanks of the meeting be given Sir Arthur for his continued generosity." To Mr. J. Boulton, the librarian, this accession of books must be most satisfactory.

Malvern.—Miss M. Lucy, the librarian, reports very satisfactorily on the working of the scheme for sending books from the Public Library to the elementary schools, the volumes being eagerly sought after by the children.

Middlesbrough.—Considerable discussion took place at the last meeting of the committee as to the best method to be adopted to rid the reading-room of two nuisances, undesirable loafers or loungers and foul atmosphere. With regard to the latter difficulty, it is proposed to obtain an analysis of the air, and, if necessary, make alterations to facilitate proper ventilation.

We regret to learn from Mr. Baker Hudson, the borough librarian, that the report which we inserted in our last issue is incorrect. Mr. Hudson writes :—

"we did not secure the library of the late Mr. Tweddell as it was, I understand, sold by private contract to a gentleman who appears to have again sold some portion of it, for I was able to purchase certain desiderata through this second buyer which had been the property of Mr. Tweddell, and later I was able to secure, from a son of the deceased gentleman, a fairly large collection of news-cuttings, MS. notes, &c.

Some months ago this library was the recipient of a most valuable gift at the hands of a gentleman who desires to remain anonymous. It consists of some 14,000 volumes, largely Theological, Philosophical and Historical, and includes many valuable editions of the Scriptures, all the great Polyglots, with others of lesser note, and a nearly complete collection of the Greek New Testaments since the time of Erasmus, besides the works of the great reformers and their opponents, and a mass of Patristic literature. In fact, as an exegetical library it is of no mean importance. There are also many important editions of the Classics, and some rarities among scientific works."

Mr. Hudson also tells us that, though growing, his collection of books on the North Riding is hardly yet to be called notable.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—The Cathedral Library has been enriched by the gift of many books which were the property of a vicar of Newcastle in the early days of the 18th century. The donor, the Rev. Canon Ellison, is the great-great-grandson of the vicar.

Oxford.—Referring to the note on the Hamburg Library for the Blind, Mr. J. L. Duncan, chief librarian of the Public Library at Oxford, writes to *The Athenæum* :—

"It may be of interest to some of your readers to know of a Blind Library at Oxford which is probably unique. It is housed in the City Library, and its object is to supply every book necessary for the University examinations. It contains now nearly five hundred volumes, and the number is rapidly increasing. Most of these books have necessarily been written by hand, and are the only copies.

"The library has done much to stimulate the higher education of the blind, and applications for the loan of books come from intending undergraduates in all parts."

Preston.—Mr. W. S. Bramwell, borough librarian, has, during the last few months, given Sunday evening lectures, mainly to popularize the books in the library and the objects in the museum. It is gratifying to learn that the lecturer's efforts have been greatly appreciated.

Skipton.—Since 1903 a library rate of one penny in the £ has been levied, but as no library exists, and there is much doubt whether Dr. Carnegie's offer and, conditions will ever be accepted and a Public Library erected, the Urban Council has decided to give notice of

intention to withdraw the grant. The possible result of this action will be to stir up the committee to make a serious effort to raise the money to comply with Dr. Carnegie's conditions.

Stoke-upon-Trent.—The reference library, in which, by the way, there is free access to the books, contains a collection of works relating to the great local industry. Every important book on pottery and porcelain is there, whether the treatise appeals to the historian, the manufacturer or the collector, and in close touch with the library, under the same capable charge, is the museum of important examples of the art and manufactures of the district. Mr. A. J. Caddie has now secured an exceptionally large and valuable collection on loan from the Victoria and Albert Museum authorities, which adds greatly to the interest of the Stoke museum, and is of much educational value.

Stourbridge.—Mr. Henry Ridley, of Amblescoat, has received the appointment of librarian of the Carnegie Library.

Sunderland.—Baldon Colliery. The Public Library, erected by the aid of a grant from Dr. Carnegie of £1,500, on a site given by Mr. Carr Ellison, was opened on April 29.

Windermere.—Mr. B. A. Irving, who died in March, bequeathed £1,000 to the Windermere Council for the purchase of a site for, and towards, the erection of a Public Library. The bequest is subject to its being taken up within two years from the decease of certain relatives of the testator

Yarmouth.—On April 12th the Mayoress of this ancient borough performed the opening ceremony of the new Public Library, and was presented, not with a useless key, but, with a gold bracelet as a memorial of the occasion. The building is commodious, and seems to be well suited to its purpose. Mr. W. Carter, the librarian, is to be congratulated on the migration from the old Tollhouse, though that ancient building has well justified its selection, some twenty years ago, for the accommodation of the library.

Mr. H. G. T. Cannons, sub-librarian of Finsbury Public Libraries, has been appointed acting-librarian for a period of six months, in succession to Mr. Jas. Duff Brown, now chief librarian of Islington. In connection with this appointment a sub-librarian is advertised for at a salary of £104 per annum, to take duty for six months, at the expiry of which term, the Committee hope to be able to make the position permanent.

Mr. J. Glyn Davies, Welsh librarian at the University College, Aberystwith, has obtained the appointment of examiner in Celtic literature at the Liverpool University.

Mr. Allen Park Paton, who was in charge of the Greenock Library for twenty-six years, and resigned in 1894, died, at the age of eighty-seven,

on Sunday, the 9th April. Mr. Paton was born at Greenock, he practiced in the law, but relinquished that profession and adopted literary occupations, published poems in 1843 and 1848, a novel, and many brochures on subjects of literary interest, including various Shakespearean studies.

Mr. John Pink, having completed half a century's service as librarian of the Public Library at Cambridge, has been the recipient of an address of congratulation presented by the library committee. All brother-librarians will join in good wishes to the veteran.

Mr. H. Tapley Soper, city librarian, Exeter, has been appointed supervising librarian of the Exeter Law Library.



THE BOOK SELECTOR.

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[*This department is designed to meet the requirements of Librarians and other Book-buyers, who are aided in book-selection by brief descriptive notes on the contents, form and scope of new publications. The notes are compiled so that they can be used as catalogue-entries as well as aids to practical book-selection. Occasionally, short reviews are added, when the nature of the books seems to call for them. When no note is made as regards Indexes, it will be understood that one is supplied, or that the book is not in a form to require an index. Publishers will oblige by sending the prices of books intended for notice in this column.*]

Collins (F. H.) Author and printer; a guide for authors, editors, printers, correctors of the press, compositors and typists; with full list of abbreviations. An attempt to codify the best typographical practices of the present day. London: Henry Frowde. 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xvi. + 408. Price 5s. net.

A dictionary of standard spellings of words in English and other languages.

This is a much extended and improved version of Hart's "Rules for compositors" noticed in these columns some time ago. It is a most admirable work, and will doubtless become an authority on methods of spelling words which at present are rendered in various ways. Here the doubtful inquirer will find that "organize" and not "organise" is the approved form, and that hundreds of similar words at present varied in spelling are definitely settled as regards form. The compiler has adopted the exact sequence of letters in alphabetizing, thereby conforming to the practice of most dictionaries and gazetteers; and thus dealing another blow at the absurd cataloguing rule that "something comes before nothing," and that, in consequence, New York comes before Newcastle. It is sometimes difficult to find abbreviations of known names, such as North Eastern Railway, which

appears at N.E.R., at ne instead of no. In our opinion abbreviations should form a separate alphabet, and thus would be avoided anomalies such as that noted above, and the assembling of the Macs at mac, regardless of the Mc's, and the M' (apostrophes).

Daly (William H.). *The Concert-goer, a handbook of the orchestra and orchestral music.* Edinburgh: Paterson & Sons, 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. viii. + 96, *ill. ports.* Price ? [No INDEX].

An amateur's guide to the instruments forming the orchestra, and the structure of orchestral music, with portraits of eminent conductors, etc. Written to induce the more intelligent appreciation of orchestral music.

An interesting, simple, and useful book, which should prove serviceable in affording that smattering of orchestral history, practice and structure, so necessary in the modern concert-room to even an elementary appreciation of the larger instrumental forms of composition.

Firth (J. B.) *Highways and byways in Derbyshire.* With illustrations by Nelly Erichsen. London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xviii. + 500, *illust., maps.* Price 6s.

Rambles in the more picturesque spots of the Peak district of Derbyshire, written for the "Highways and Byways" series.

A pleasantly written and exceedingly interesting peregrination through the renowned beauty spots of Derbyshire, including Ashbourne, Dovedale, Buxton, Castleton, Bakewell, Chatsworth, Matlock, etc., with a concluding chapter on the town of Derby. Mr. Firth has performed his task in a very satisfactory manner, considering its magnitude, and has noted most of the chief facts, historical or otherwise, connected with the different localities. As regards underground Derbyshire, however, which may be reckoned as a "byway" of interest, we think some reference might have been made to the recent cavern explorations described in Mr. E. A. Baker's "Moors, Craggs and Caves of the High Peak." Most of the illustrations are well-done, and many of them are almost photographic in their fidelity of detail.

Hanchett (Henry G.). *The Art of the musician. A guide to the intelligent appreciation of music.* New York: The Macmillan Co., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. x. + 328. Price 6s. 6d. net.

An exposition of musical forms, technique and history "intended to give to persons fond of music, but not thoroughly versed in its intricacies, an idea of the reasons which prompt musical critics to approve or disapprove of compositions."

Another guide to the formation of taste and judgment in music, of which quite a large number have been published during the past few years. Practical guides to æsthetics are very much wanted as a counterpoise to the mass of theoretical and dilettante stuff in existence, and this rapid sketch of the meaning of forms, etc., may be recommended as a good example of such a guide.

Knox (George Wm.). *Imperial Japan: the country and its people.* London: George Newnes. Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. xii. + 294, *col. illust.* Price 7s. 6d. net.

Brief general sketch of the history, traditions, religion, transformation, customs, education and people of Japan.

A rapid, but interesting and vivid description of present-day Japan written by an American, and full of the very kind of brief information about men and manners in the Far East which appeals to the ordinary reader. For these reasons it is eminently suited for the purposes of municipal and other lending libraries.

Lamb (Charles and Mary). *Tales from Shakspeare*. With illustrations by Byam Shaw. London: Geo. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. xii. + 364. Price 3s. 6d.

Reprint of a series of prose stories based upon some of the plays of Shakespeare, originally published in 1807. The comedies were paraphrased by Mary and the tragedies by Charles Lamb. Adapted for the use of children as an introduction to the works of Shakespeare.

An exceedingly handy, well-produced and nicely illustrated edition of Lamb's "Tales," in the form of a volume of Bohn's Standard Library. Well-suited for use in the juvenile departments of public libraries.

Lamprecht (Karl). *What is history?* Five lectures on the modern science of history. Translated from the German by E. A. Andrews. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1905. 8°, 7½", pp. x. + 228. Price 5s. net. [No INDEX.]

Development of the science of history. German history from a psychological point of view. Psychic periods of transition. Psychology of the periods of culture in Germany. Problems of universal history.

The scope of this learned and suggestive work is sufficiently indicated in the above abstract of contents. It is a suitable book for libraries requiring to strengthen their representation of the philosophy of history.

Aurelius (Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, 121-180 A. D.) *Thoughts*. Translated by George Long. With an essay by Matthew Arnold. London: George Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. viii. + 254. Price 1s. 6d. net.

A volume of the York Library containing Long's essays on the Life and Philosophy of Marcus Aurelius, and Matthew Arnold's essay as an appendix. A fit and proper addition to this dainty series of best books.

Pepys (Samuel) *Diary* . . . edited with additions by Henry B. Wheatley. London: G. Bell & Sons, 1905. 8°, 7½". Vol. 8. Price 5s. net.

This volume completes the cheap reprint of Wheatley's edition of Pepys' Diary, and covers the period from 1 May, 1668 to 31 May, 1669. It contains a very complete index by Mr. A. R. Cowdroy, occupying about half of the volume, and presenting in a compact form probably the best index and guide to Pepys' Diary ever compiled. Now that this handy and complete edition of Pepys is finished we can most heartily commend it as the best and most suitable in existence for Public Library purposes, whether reference or lending.

Roberts (James). *The Investors' guide to Patent law and the new practice.* London: John Murray, 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. viii. + 110. Price 2s. 6d. net.

The title describes the scope of this work, which is based on its author's large and important book on "The Grant and validity of British Patents." It describes the whole law and practice of patents in this country, and is particularly valuable for library purposes in its exposition of the new regulations concerning searches, etc., which came into force in 1905.

Vinogradoff (P.). *The Growth of the manor.* London: Sonnenschein & Co., Ltd., 1905. 8°, 8½", pp. viii. + 384. Price 10s. 6d.

Historical account of the origin, growth, law and customs of the manorial system of land tenure in England.

A learned and complete survey of a greatly debated and difficult subject, which furnishes a valuable text-book for reference. The author gives copious notes and quotations in support of his statements, and has succeeded in producing a work of immense value to the archæologist, the lawyer and the student of sociology.

Wheatley (Henry B.). *Literary blunders, a chapter in the "History of human error."* London: Elliot Stock, 1905. 8°, 6½", pp. xii. + 226. Price 1s. 6d. net.

A re-issue, in the cheap edition of *The Book-Lover's Library*, of the work first published in 1893. An amusing collection of all kinds of blunders, of which some of the bibliographical ones may be commended to the notice of young librarians.

The Library Association Year Book for 1905. Edited by Lawrence Inkster, honorary secretary. London: Library Association, 1905. 8°, 9¾", pp. 80. Price 1s. net.

In the work of compiling this useful annual, Mr. Inkster has been helped by Messrs. H. Bond and J. R. Boosé. It includes in addition to a list of members with their addresses and dates of election, the charter and bye-laws of the Association; Examination papers and the Examinations syllabus; a list of branch associations; list of recent papers and articles contributed to the *Record*; and a list of Libraries in Britain and its Colonies. Looking over this Year Book, and comparing it as regards its List of Libraries with those published by Mr. Greenwood, the "Literary Year Book"; Clegg, "Minerva," and others, one is moved to wish for something fuller and more satisfactory than the somewhat meagrely-equipped list supplied at present. A useful kind of Annual is that of the German Library Association, which gives full particulars about the principal University and other libraries of Germany, and it is a Year Book on similar lines which is badly wanted in this country. An annual which gave correct information on select items of library management and statistics, would be consulted by all kinds of people, and would save librarians a world of trouble every time

particulars were required concerning Sunday Opening, Salaries, Catalogues, and every detail of administration. A revised Year-book on the lines of the "British Library Year Book," 1900, with similar useful abstracts and tables would be a God-send to every librarian in the world, and we should like to see the Library Association embarking upon its production.

The Library Authorities of the Free Public Library of Newark, New Jersey, held an Exhibition of Bookbinding between February 6 and 27, 1905, and in connection with it have published a 16 pp. pamphlet entitled "Book Binding. An exhibition of the materials, tools and processes of book binding, with examples of plain and ornamented bindings." This contains, in addition to the list of exhibits, some useful "Explanatory Notes" on binding generally.



LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE sixth sessional meeting of this Association was held at the London School of Economics, Clare Market, on April 17th, when about 50 members attended. Mr. H. R. Tedder occupied the chair. Mr. E. A. Baker, M.A. (Wallasey), read a paper on "Book Annotation," which replied to Mr. E. A. Savage's paper on "Principles of Annotation," read at Newcastle last year, and made out a strong case in favour of evaluation on the lines of the American Guides and Mr. Baker's own admirable works. The discussion was opened by Mr. Kettle (Guildhall) and continued by Messrs. Bond (Woolwich), Jast (Croydon), Slater (editor of "Book Prices Current"), Savage (Bromley), Inkster (Battersea) and others. At the end of this interesting discussion Mr. F. E. Chennell moved the following resolution:—

"That this meeting views with regret, and with deep concern, the conduct of certain members of the Library Association in using undue influence in furthering the candidature of such librarians as favour their particular views upon public library administration, to the detriment of such as do not, when appointments for librarianship are vacant.

That it suggests to the Council of the Library Association the advisability of including in their Bye-laws some such clause as shall render any member or members convicted of any such reprehensible action guilty of a breach of professional etiquette, and shall empower the Council to exclude them from membership of the Association under the provisions of clause (h) of the Bye-laws,"

and strongly condemned the circulars and letters which had recently been circulated by certain members to the injury of other members' interests. Mr. Kettle seconded, and thought the council ought to take some action in the matter forthwith. Mr. Savage said he sympathized with Mr. Chennell's motion, but thought it was not clear and explicit enough. He moved the following amendment:—

"That this meeting views with regret, and with deep concern, the conduct of certain past and present members of the Association in conducting technical controversies and criticising, in the local press, the work of certain librarians or of the authorities advised by them, and in entering into communication with library authorities, or their members, by means of printed or MS. letters or circulars, or verbal statements, calculated to injure the interests of officers of such authority."

This was seconded by Mr. Aldred (Southwark).

Mr. Jast declared that the council could do nothing in the matter, and instanced the many difficulties which would be encountered in any attempt to lay down rules of professional conduct. Mr. Bond said he had not taken part in any circularisation, although he had seen a great deal of the kind of thing referred to. The Hon. Secretary asked the members to leave the resolution entirely alone, as the matters it related to were quite beneath their notice. Messrs. Chambers, Peddie, Meaden Roberts, Newland, and others also spoke.

The amendment, which was accepted by Mr. Chennell, was then put to the meeting and carried.

NORTHERN COUNTIES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at the Public Library, South Shields, on 29th March, by invitation of the Public Library Committee. The President (Mr. Butler Wood) occupied the chair. Among those present were Messrs. Basil Anderton, B. R. Hill, E. Bailey, W. J. Arrowsmith, Charlton Deas, R. T. Richardson, W. H. Gibson, J. Walton, A. Hair (Hon. Treasurer), H. E. Johnston (Hon. Secretary), W. Wilson, I. Briggs, and others. Before the commencement of the business a reception of the members by the Mayor of South Shields (Alderman J. R. Lawson), and Mr. John Noble (Chairman of the Public Library Committee) took place. They were accompanied by several members of the Committee.

At the business meeting which followed, the Hon. Secretary announced that letters and telegrams had been received from Messrs. T. W. Hand, B. Hudson, A. H. Furnish, W. F. Lawton, A. Tait, J. M. Dowbiggin, and A. Jude. Two new members had been elected, viz.: Mr. G. Fletcher (Ashton-under-Lyne) and Mr. G. H. Wood (Mechanics' Institute, Wakefield). The minutes of the last quarterly meeting having been read and adopted, it was reported that the next meeting would be held at Workington on July 10th and 11th, and that members of other Branch Associations would be cordially welcomed. The first day would be devoted to the business meeting, and on the second day there would be an excursion to Keswick.

Mr. E. Bailey, librarian, South Shields Public Library, read a paper on "Book Selection." He spoke of the importance of the subject, and said the librarian's administrative work was complete only when he had made every effort to provide his readers with what was most wholesome, most valuable, and most instructive in literature. He said the selection rested finally with the Book Committee, and much

was due to the enthusiasm and active interest of these gentlemen. But there was a danger. The tastes of these gentlemen were in the direction of ideal literature, and they were anxious to provide for library readers the ideal only. They did not sufficiently recognize the claims of books not ideal, but nevertheless most desirable and desired. There were in every library certain readers upon whose judgment and taste the librarian might safely rely, and useful suggestions were often made in the "suggestion book," which might with advantage be adopted. If they turned to reviews they found that critics disagree. The journals that gave them sound criticism were not numerous. Money spent in the equipment and maintenance of the reference library was well used. It was necessary that there should be a good local collection, and preference should be given to books of permanent value and abiding interest. In the selection of technical works they should obtain the assistance of experts. Much money was needed in purchasing new and revised editions of technical works, and no money could be better spent than in bringing such books up-to-date. The library existed for all classes of the community, and they should consider the legitimate demands of readers of all classes.

Mr. Basil Anderton (librarian, Newcastle) said, with regard to the selection of fiction, he did not see how, by taking the opinion of one or two friends, Mr. Bailey would get out of the difficulty any more than if he took the opinions of one or two reviews.

Mr. H. E. Johnston (Hon. Secretary) said that Mr. Bailey had touched upon an important point with regard to the technical section of the library, which, he thought, was inclined to be overlooked. He referred to the replacing of standard text books with the latest editions procurable, which to the student and mechanic was most important.

The President remarked that he had come to the same conclusion as Mr. Bailey. But he desired to warn them against the experts. They must be careful in going to experts that they found the right experts. There were experts who were useful, but they must be experts who were *au fait* in the subject about which they wanted advice. Experts often suggested books which they wanted for themselves. They should use the expert, but they should not let the expert use them.

An adjourned discussion was resumed on a paper, read at the previous meeting by Mr. H. E. Johnston, on "The Newsroom in its relation to the Public Library." Dr. Whyte (South Shields) was of opinion that to do away with the newsroom would be an extraordinary step to take. He agreed with the writer of the paper that it would be a desirable thing to purge the newsroom of the sporting element, but to abolish newspapers would be a great mistake.

Mr. Charlton Deas (Sunderland) remarked that the average newspaper had an educational influence, but he was afraid there was too much tendency to follow the inclination of the public rather than to meet them. He added that at Sunderland they had set an example to the British Isles by abolishing the newsroom; they considered that the money spent on that department did not bring in an equivalent

return from an educational point of view. Mr. Purves (Workington) asked how any librarian, with a large newsroom, could blot out betting news. Publishers, he said, were careful to scatter sporting news all over the paper, and it would be a day's work to discover it all.

Another member said that in smaller towns, where it was found difficult to keep a library going with a penny rate, the example of Sunderland was likely to be largely followed.

Councillor D. Richardson (South Shields) remarked that when they had a newsroom they were catering for a certain class of ratepayer, and if the latter demanded the daily paper for his literature, he had a right to it.

The President said that in his opinion the library and the newspaper were inseparable. It should not be forgotten, he added, that newsrooms were a great advantage to people in search of situations. He had a great objection to censorship, and, although he did not read betting news himself, he was against the blacking-out process. Proper supervision would, he thought, overcome the objections put forward.

Mr. Johnston, in reply, congratulated Mr. Deas and his committee on the recent step they had taken by abolishing the newsroom, and thought a good deal was likely to be heard in relation to the subject in hand in the near future. He still held that newsrooms were largely used by "kill-time" readers, and not by the genuine ratepayer or reader to any appreciable extent. This, added to the fact that newspapers were cheap, as also the valuable space they necessarily took up for their display, was, in his opinion, a strong argument that the expenditure on them was not justified. He contended that oversight was not the way out of the difficulty, for the question arose as to where the line of discrimination was to be drawn between desirable and undesirable readers. Mr. Johnston pointed out that three months ago, his committee decided to curtail the supply of daily newspapers by one half, and it was a significant fact that such reduction had not caused any complaint on the part of those using the newsroom.

Mr. A. Hair (Tynemouth) read an instructive and amusing paper on "The Public Library as an advertising medium: its use and abuse." He referred to the attempts made and methods adopted by advertising agents to make use of the Public Library for their own purpose. He suggested that Public Libraries should observe an attitude of strict neutrality, and politely decline to allow the display of any handbills, posters, notices, or announcements which were in any way commercial sectarian, or propagandist, or even philanthropic.

Mr. W. Wilson asked that, seeing that Mr. Hair had advocated the exclusion of advertisements, sectarian and faddist, would he also deal in a similar manner with the many ephemeral magazines presented to Public Libraries, which were simply another means of advertising the various donors' opinions.

Mr. J. Walton said that to his mind the question resolved itself into this—that all advertisements likely to be of monetary value to the advertisers should be excluded.

Mr. Hair, in reply, said that the magazines which had been referred to were better discarded, but if this were not possible, they should be relegated to the wire rack in the reading-room.

A scheme prepared by a Sub-Committee of the Council for increasing the educational facilities of library assistants within the area of the Association was submitted, and after discussion was referred back to the Council for further consideration.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the libraries were inspected under the guidance of the Librarian (Mr. E. Bailey) and Mr. A. Errington (Sub-Librarian). Subsequently the members were entertained to tea by the Public Libraries Committee, and the proceedings concluded with an enjoyable smoking concert under the Chairmanship of Mr. J. Noble.

NORTH MIDLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING was held in the Derby Public Library on Thursday, April 13th, presided over by the Public Librarian of Derby.

Besides the usual routine business, papers were read as follows:—"The Patent Library," by Mr. Arthur Lever, Nottingham; "The decease of the three-volume novel," by "Eocene"; "The Mediaeval Library," by Mr. Walton, Derby; and "Some Library Humour," by Mr. Briscoe, Hon. Secretary. The papers were well and profitably discussed. As an outcome of Mr. Lever's paper, the Nottingham City Librarian's resolution—inaugurating a movement which, if successful, will save considerable sums of money to those libraries which have patent libraries attached—was carried.

BRISTOL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of this branch of the Library Association was held at the North District Library, Cheltenham Road, on April 19th, at eight o'clock, when a paper on "Some minor points in cataloguing" was read by Miss W. Parry, and one on "Women Librarians" by Miss A. Price. At the conclusion of the business Mr. Norris Mathews gave one or two Shakespeare readings, commemorative of the dramatist's birthday, April 23rd.

ASSOCIATION OF LIBRARY ASSISTANTS.

A meeting of the Northumberland and Durham Association of Library Assistants was held, on April 5th, in the Stephenson Branch Library, Newcastle. Mr. J. A. Charlton Deas, Sunderland (hon. president), occupied the chair, Mr. W. H. Gibson, librarian-in-charge of the Stephenson Library, received the members. Mr. Alfred Errinton,

South Shields, was inducted to the office of president, and afterwards read a paper on "Literature and the Education of Library Assistants." Another paper on "The Choice of Books" was contributed by Mr. B. Mitford Steele, Public Libraries, Newcastle. Discussion followed, and at the close the Stephenson Library was inspected.



CORRESPONDENCE.

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Re LIBRARY ASSOCIATION EXAMINATIONS.

SIR.—In reference to the letter of "Student" in the February issue of the *Library World*, I should like to say that many other students of the L.A. examinations have also experienced the want of a guide to the earliest and best translations of the works of great foreign writers into English.

For some time past I have been engaged upon the compilation of such a list as to me seems necessary, but as "Student" confesses, the subject bristles with difficulties, for the ordinary sources of information are generally inaccurate.

I shall be pleased to receive suggestions or co-operation with this proposed list, which I hope to see issued shortly.

I am, yours faithfully,

Hornsey Public Libraries.

WILLIAM J. HARRIS.

THE BURDEN OF NEWSROOMS.

SIR,—By your courtesy may I have one last word, as far as I am concerned, on the newsroom question.

It is a familiar axiom that when one has a bad case it is a safe expedient to abuse your opponent, and, although the slighting manner in which Mr. Roebuck is good enough to speak of myself is more a matter of that gentleman's manners than of public interest, it is manifest that the burden of it breaks down his arguments.

I have sought with no little care for some intelligent reason for Mr. Roebuck's last letter, but, beyond his dispute with myself, I can find none, unless indeed, it is to be found in the following. Says Mr. Roebuck, of St. George: "It is obvious that if you do not wish a particular class of persons to visit the newsrooms *you have only to keep them out.*"

Happy St. George, Stepney, in the East!

But, unhappily, Mr. Roebuck destroys the humour of this childlike dictum in his closing, ponderous sentences. "Newsrooms," declares our Solon, "are still run on worn-out lines." Exactly—what then is he contending for? For the reputation of the librarians "which Mr. Huntley has wounded"? "Let us hope," the writer continues, "the newsroom question will receive careful consideration." Again—exactly—let Mr. Roebuck commence.

LOCKWOOD HUNTLEY.

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EFFICIENT ASSISTANTS.

SIR,—In his brief, valuable, and suggestive article, "Points of Contact," in your last issue, Mr. S. T. Ewart rightly places first the courtesy of the officials as of cardinal importance, and I am in perfect agreement with him that "one boorish assistant is sufficient to bring even a large library into bad odour, no matter how well everything may be managed."

We may have costly buildings, sumptuously fitted with up-to-date equipment of every kind, and filled with the mental wealth of nations, but unless behind all these are found staffs possessing brains to utilize them for the highest good of their readers, they but poorly achieve the great purpose for which they were designed.

Be it remembered it is not the librarian who comes into closest contact with the students who flock to our schools for the grown-ups, but the assistant. Just as the cavalry are the eyes and ears of the army in time of war, so too are the assistants the eyes and ears of the librarian. The value of assistants of this type cannot be over-estimated. Of all aids to readers they are indeed the best, and their employment the surest way to promote the library's popularity.

Apropos of this, it was the well-nigh unanimous report at a Conference of American librarians, upon the subject of aids to readers, that "nothing can take the place of an intelligent and obliging assistant." In brief, we assistants should one and all strive to be living catalogues, or, intellectual finger posts to the treasures of literature committed to our keeping. And the more we put into practice the famous dictum of Lord Brougham—"Read something of everything, and everything of something" (librarianship),—so shall each one of us be "the servant of the servants of literature."

Yours faithfully,

A. E. TILLING.

EAST LONDON AGAIN.

SIR,—In the April instalment of their article on Library Magazines, Messrs. Sayers and Stewart remark :—

“Again, local conditions exercise no small influence on the matter to be published ; the contents must be suitable and attractive to the clientèle of the library. As a consequence, the magazine of, say, the John Rylands’ Library would differ in this respect from that of an East End of London library.”

It would, indeed, be interesting to learn what sort of a magazine the writers consider would be most suitable and attractive to the readers of an East End library. The intelligent and highly educated East Londoner would, at least, demand that his or her magazine should be in no way inferior in quality to that published in any other London or suburban district. The fact is that the intelligence of the East Londoner is seriously discounted by those who know him not. I have lived in all the four quarters of London, and therefore know what I am talking about, and only wish that Messrs. Sayers and Stewart had taken the trouble to ascertain whether East London is really the home of illiterate people, before they inferred as much in their otherwise most interesting and instructive article. Whitechapel Library has helped many private students to obtain University, Commercial and other scholarships, and the Japanese Minister of Education, German, American, and other Foreign Professors have expressed their surprise and pleasure when, on visiting the library, they have seen the Reference Library full of earnest students.

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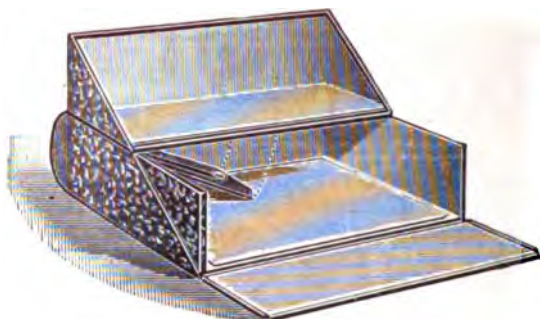
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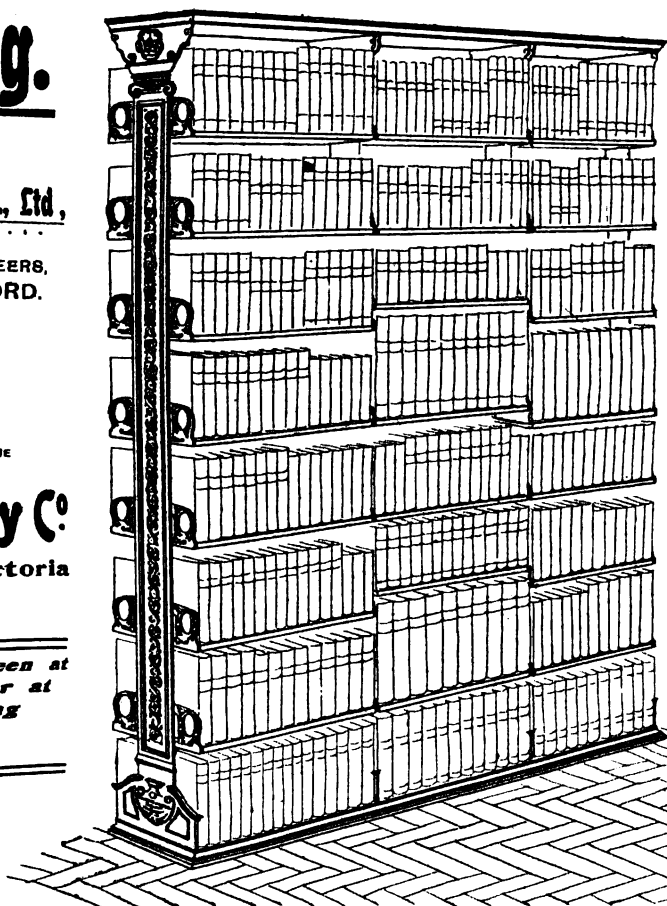
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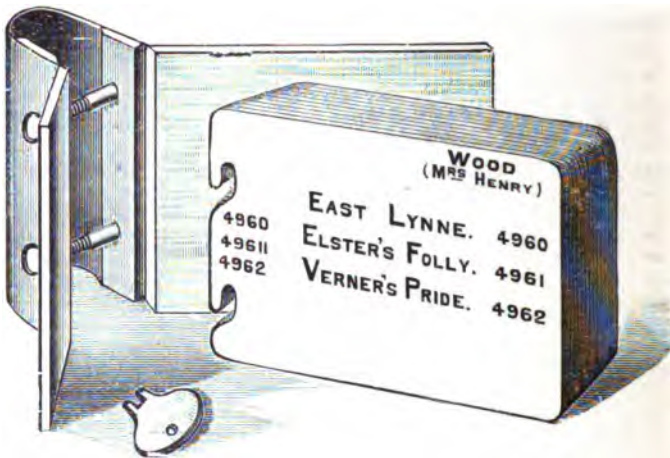
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THE END OF OUR SEVENTH YEAR.

o o o

THE conclusion of another volume affords us an opportunity of surveying the past year as regards library progress and prospects.

Briefly, it may be summed up as a year of building and Carnegie gifts. A considerable amount of activity has been displayed all over the country in the erection and opening of new buildings provided by the munificence of Mr. Carnegie, and the time seems to have arrived for gathering up all this planning and organization work and recording it in a special handbook of English and American Carnegie libraries. Such a record would prove of immense value to library committees and architects, and would form no unworthy memento of one of the most extraordinary developments of educational work the world has ever witnessed.

Next year we hope to further improve the contents of the *Library World*, and to extend its influence; but, as we have already pointed out on more than one occasion, our efforts on behalf of the library profession at large are to a very great extent limited by the lack of universal support. The library movement has yet to make great headway against popular prejudice and studied misrepresentation, and before this can be overcome, library authorities should endeavour to procure much wider circulation for professional literature, in order to counteract the evil influences of so much misunderstanding. In the work of fighting against persistent misrepresentation the *Library World* has not been last, while as regards its information about, and sympathy with, every sane and progressive phase of library work it may justly claim to be a leader. The future policy of the magazine shall be dictated by similar considerations, and we sincerely trust that our efforts on behalf of the library profession in all its ramifications will be duly appreciated by our present and future subscribers.

THE EDITOR.



THE PRACTICAL WORK OF ANNOTATION.

By ERNEST A. SAVAGE, *Borough Librarian, Bromley, Kent.*

o o o

AS a rule, the practical work of annotation falls either upon the shoulders of the librarian or of his principal assistants.

In most small and in one or two large libraries the chief writes all the notes, which, as they need so much care and intelligence in composition, are thought to be beyond the capabilities of younger members of the staff. In such circumstances annotation is expensive, and a librarian will think twice before introducing it into his catalogue. But these conditions need not always prevail. With a little preliminary organization the processes of annotation may be distributed among a number of junior and senior assistants at a saving,

Volume VII. No. 84. June, 1905.

in the end, of a good deal of valuable time. The larger the number of assistants taking part the greater the economy in at least two respects: first, if the juniors bear a share, the work of the comparatively highly-paid seniors is lightened; secondly, the "bibliographic" intelligence of the staff is more likely to reach an efficient level—the ability to assist readers is more general, inasmuch as no assistant of average good memory can forget that his library possesses a book dealing with a certain subject in such and such a way when he has helped to make its note.

Two methods of dividing labour are familiar to me. In one method, prose fiction and some other books very easy to annotate are entrusted to juniors; books which are not quite so straightforward are assigned to seniors; the librarian supervises generally, and deals himself with the books (usually philosophical and theological dissertations) presenting the greatest difficulties. So far as economy of time is concerned this plan answers well enough if the assistants do not fall into the habit, as they are prone to do, of reserving the books which give them a little trouble for the librarian to tackle. With the second method the books pass from assistant to assistant, and then to chief. In a large library, two juniors would prepare the work, two seniors would write the catalogue slips and collect the material for the notes; whilst the sub-librarian or the librarian would mould and shape the notes into their final form. Provided the assistants are of average ability, and if a little organization goes to the making of the notes, the amount of work involved in the final correction will be so small that the librarian can very well keep pace with six assistants. For all-round training in research work this method seems preferable, and I propose to describe it in this article.

An annotator needs good reference works, but since all are necessary in the reference department, he will have them within his reach. If the library has a cataloguing room and is not limited as regards funds, duplicates of some of the less expensive books should be bought. Below appears a list of the books and papers which will be found of most service:—

SPECIAL REFERENCE BOOKS.*

General.

- *Allibone, S. A. Critical Dictionary of English Literature.
- *Moulton, C. W. Library of Literary Criticism of English and American Authors.
- *American Library Association. A.L.A. Catalog: 8,000 Volumes for a Popular Library. Pt. 1.
- American Library Association. Leypoldt, A. H., and Iles, George. List of Books for Girls and Women and their Clubs.
- Hampstead Public Libraries. Descriptive Catalogue of the Books in the Lending and Reference Departments, Kilburn Branch Library.
- Sargent, E. B., and Wishaw, Bernhard. Guide Book to Books.
- Sonnenschein, W. S. A Reader's Guide.
- " The Best Books.

* The best books are marked with an asterisk.

Bishopsgate Institute. Descriptive Catalogue of Books contained in the Lending Library.

Reference Works.

- *American Library Association. Kroeger, A. B. Guide to Reference Books.

History.

- *Adams, C. K. Manual of Historical Literature.
- *Gross, Charles. Sources and Literature of English History.
- *American Library Association. Larned, J. N. Literature of American History.

Geography.

Mill, H. R. Hints to Teachers and Students on the Choice of Geographical Books for Reference and Reading.

Fine Arts.

American Library Association. Sturgis, Russell, and Krehbiel, H. E. Bibliography of Fine Arts.

Sociology.

Bowker, R. R., and Iles, George. Reader's Guide in Economic Social and Political Science.

Prose Fiction.

- *Nield, Jonathan. Guide to the Best Historical Novels and Tales. Ed. 3.
- *Philadelphia Free Library. Thomson, O. R. H. Prose Fiction in the Wagner Institute Branch.
- *Baker, E. A. Descriptive Guide to the Best Fiction, British and American.
- *Midland Railway Institute, Derby. Baker, E. A. Handbook to Prose Fiction.
- Dixon, Z. A. Subject-Index to Prose Fiction.
- Salem Public Library. Class List of Fiction. (Contains full list of historical fiction at end).
- American Library Association. Cornu, Mme., and Beer, William. List of French Fiction.
- Evanston Public Library. Graded and Annotated List of 500 Books in School Libraries.
- *Finsbury. Class Guide to Fiction, 1903.

GENERAL REFERENCE BOOKS.

- An encyclopædia.
- A brief general biographical dictionary.
- A dictionary of contemporary biography.
- A small atlas.
- A chronological dictionary.

The latest volumes of the best literary journals should also be handy. The *Times Literary Supplement* is specially valuable on account of its annotated list of publications.

- * The best books are marked with an asterisk.

He sets to work in this way. In the space at the top of Form 1 he writes the inclusive numbers of the books in the batch he is working upon. 1. In each book he puts an ordinary catalogue slip, and Form 2 (reproduced below). Then he proceeds to work through the whole batch, point by point, signing his initials to each process. 2. Taking which should be prepared before the books are passed on to a senior, the first book of the lot he turns to the library catalogue, obtains therefrom the form of the author's name which the library has previously adopted and enters it straightway upon the catalogue slip. Likewise he discovers the correct author-heading for all the books in turn. Of course he is not called upon to determine the precise form of heading if the author is so far unrepresented in the library—the seniors must do this—but he is expected to make quite certain that an heading already used is adhered to consistently and correctly. When he has looked through the batch he signs his initials against point 2.

3. Similarly in the case of any biographical works he finds the correct form of the biographee's name. 4. By the same reference as 3 he ascertains whether a biographee's note exists in the catalogue; if it does, he initials the head "2. Subject" on the note slip (Form 2) to show the senior that he can pass this item; if it does not then he makes no such mark. 5. If should appear among his batch a work of which there is either another copy or edition in the library, he abstracts the card relating thereto from the catalogue and withdraws the book from circulation until the senior cataloguer has done with it. 6. His next duty is to note the details of imprint on the back of each catalogue slip. (Head 9 on Form 2 is simply intended for any note in explanation of the imprint). 7. If any of the books belong to series he will refer to the general series note, if such exists. 8. Then to the correct form of the series abbreviation. (The foregoing details relate principally to cataloguing proper, but each process is taken as it appears on the slip for the sake of clearness.) 9. The junior begins on the annotations by hunting up the reviews in the periodicals usually depended upon for this purpose. As a rule purchases of new books are suggested by the reviews, and in such cases the name, volume, and page of the periodical publishing the review is marked on the back of each suggestion card or slip, so facilitating the references of the junior when the time for annotating comes. 10-11. Lastly, the junior ascertains whether the books include bibliographies or glossaries. These processes are simply set out in accordance with the practice of a particular library, and will be altered to suit other requirements. The point is, that by systematising note-making, much of the work now done by comparatively highly-paid seniors may be accomplished by inexpensive juniors, with advantage to the latter and the library.

The next step in annotating is illustrated by the "Note" slip (Fig. 2), which is designed to guide the senior next in grade above the junior. For each book, the senior will scribble the raw material on to one of the slips, working through the points one by one*

* The heads on the form are based on the code of instructions attached to a paper on "The Principles of Annotation," which I contributed to the *Library Association Record*, but of course they will vary according to the practice of other libraries.

1. Author's qualifications. [Ed., compiler; authority of editorial board]					
2. Subject. [Argument, theory, course of journey, scope of articles in ref. w.].					
3. Point of View. Aim. [Object of journey; bias; treatment (limit, prep. required, popular, etc.).]					
4. Editing. [Arrangement in ref. w. (alpha., chron., class.).]				6. Period.	
5. Locale.					
7. Principal chars.					
8. Appendices. [Gloss.; bibliog.; matter not covered by title].					
9. Imprint.					13. Previous publication
10. Sequels (complements).					
11. Index.					14. Basis.
12. Comparison.					

FORM 2.

(On standard size slip, 5in. by 5in, approx.)

1. He ascertains whether the authors' qualifications have been properly dealt with before in the library catalogue. One writer, for example, may have produced a series of books on Pauperism, some of which the library already possesses. The senior refers to head Pauperism in the catalogue, where he will find several cards, each describing the features peculiar to its book, and one of them also bearing a brief note on the author's qualifications for writing on the subject; hence further reference to this point is unnecessary so far as such author's writings on *Pauperism* are concerned. But if this same author should turn from his speciality Pauperism to some other subject his qualifications for

dealing with it become important. In short, the assistant, must, if possible, give the public some idea of the author's standing in relation to each and every subject he takes up. Often these qualifications are not discoverable, perhaps because the authors turn to other subjects to boil the pot, or as a hobby; then the assistant will simply write his initials in the space on the form to show that the point has not been overlooked.

2. The second head on the form is the Subject. The reviews and the biographical articles put aside by the junior now come in handy, as, with their aid, and with the aid of the reference books listed above, the assistant sets down, in a series of terse, "telegraphic" sentences his abstract of the salient points of the book.*

3. The next point is the relation of the book to that subject—the point of view of the author or the special features the book contains. The reviews and the prefaces usually convey some hint to help the assistant to deal with a feature of annotation, which although important, is not difficult. Of course, the literature of power does not present biases such as are to be looked for in the literature of knowledge; and sometimes in the latter, especially in the case of pot-boiling books, no particular leaning is traceable.

4. The fourth head, "Editing," only needs attention when the book is an edited classic or a work of reference, and does not present any difficulty whatever. 5-14. In the case of fictional or imaginative works, the locale, the period, and the principal characters are facts easily discoverable; and the same may be said of the remaining points on the form, with the exception of perhaps No. 14, which is sometimes carefully hidden by the publisher.

The work of this second assistant will leave the books annotated in a crude form, much like the two specimens now given. No. 1 relates to Geikie's "Scottish Reminiscences." For the sake of brevity I only print the headings used on the form.

Note to B1525.

1. *Author's qualifications.* "Has sojourned in every pt. of [Scotland], and for 60 years has mingled w. all classes of its inhabitants."
2. *Subject.* Anecdotes, stories, sketches of S. life.
8. *Appendices.* C. on: Scottish Sch. of Geol. Influence of Topog. on the People of S.
12. *Comparison.* Similar w.: Dean Ramsay's "S. Life and Char." (H 141).

This note, in its final form, will run as follows:—

Author "has sojourned in every part of [Scotland] and for sixty years has mingled with all classes of its inhabitants.
Subject: Anecdotes, stories, and Sketches of Scottish life, character and customs. A gossiping history of social changes.

*The points he should look for in connection with each class of books have no place in an article simply dealing with processes.

Chapters on : Scottish School of Geology. Influence of Topography on the People of Scotland. *Similar work* : Dean Ramsay's "Scottish Life and Character," (H 141).

Example No. 2 relates to Logan Jack's "Back Blocks of China."

Note to C685.

1. *Author's qualifications.* Geologist to Govt. of Queensl.
2. *Course of journey.* Shanghai and by Yang-tsze to Sze-chwan, then S. to Maha and Bhamo.
3. *Object,* Inspection of mining properties—prospecting copper and other metals.

This becomes finally :—

Author : Geologist to Government of Queensland.

Course of journey : Shanghai and by the Yang-tsze river to Sze-chwan, thence south to Maha and Bhamo. *Object* : Inspection of the workings for copper and other metals, and of various mining properties.

Although of fair average difficulty, these notes are not beyond the ability of even a young assistant who works with a form which will remind him of the points of importance. In each example, the author, states his qualifications in the preface. In example 1 the subject is clear from a cursory examination of the book ; the chapters noted are are digressions from the main theme and are important enough to be noted ; whilst, when the assistant refers to the subject catalogue, he cannot miss the entry of Dean Ramsay's similar work. Example 2 is perhaps less difficult, the course of the journey being marked on a map, and the object being stated in the preface.

With practice the assistant will readily grasp the annotative possibilities of every work he handles. He will learn that the most copious sources of information are :—

The Title-page.

The Preface.

The Contents.

Page Heads.

The First Chapter.

The Last Chapter.

Page and paragraph heads show up the contents with exemplary clearness, but they only appear in certain kinds of books. In other cases the title-page may state the qualifications ; the preface may give qualifications, scope of the book, its aim, and its standpoint ; the contents will show the scope, the special features, appendices, glossaries, and bibliographies ; the first chapter will sometimes compensate for the shortcomings of the preface ; whilst the last chapter may recapitulate the whole of the preceding chapters.

With slow, sure, methodical work more notes will be turned out than anyone would expect, although the fairly full rules given in the code referred to above be followed. The duty of the junior who prepares the work, and that of the senior who takes it up from this

point and carries it on to the final stage, can be performed in about the same time. Between them, they can write notes for about twenty non-fiction books per hour, or about ten books apiece per hour; two seniors cannot well do more. The final correction will occupy about one half the time.

When finally revising, the librarian or senior simply writes his corrections on the forms (Form 2.), which afterwards go back to the junior to be copied on to the catalogue slips or cards. Such corrections are usually only needed to give notes smoothness, perspicuity, and to cut out extraneous matter. Every word which does not help to make a note a true description of the contents of its book should be struck out; every fact bearing no relation to the idea or ideas is worthless; general, loose, incorrect, inexplicit statements merely waste even the small amount of money that municipal libraries can afford to spend on descriptive cataloguing.



AN AMERICAN LIBRARIAN'S TRAMP ABROAD.

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LIBRARIAN Frank P. Hill, who recently made a tour through Europe for the purpose of visiting the foreign libraries to get ideas for the local library, read a paper on his travels and observations. Mr. Hill said in part:

"The trip lasted seventy days, during which time I passed through six countries, visited sixty-two libraries and fifty-three book stores in twenty-seven cities. The most advantageous portion of the trip was that through Great Britain, as the Public Libraries there are more like our own, and form a better basis for comparison. Some interesting points to be noted are as follows:

Libraries have smaller appropriations in Europe than in America.

The library movement is gaining ground in Germany and Switzerland, but there seems to be little progress in France.

Nearly all Public Libraries have separate rooms for men and women.

In Germany the Public Libraries are intended for poor people.

All libraries close part of the year for cleaning, and some of them every day in the week for the same purpose.

Great Britain has made great strides in Public Library matters the past seven years.

In England there is less co-operation among librarians than in America.

There appears to be considerable rivalry between the supporters of the open access system and those who favour closed shelves.

General reading-rooms in Great Britain are larger and are used more than here.

The best Public Libraries of Great Britain are quite as good as our best. This is particularly true of Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham and some of the libraries in London.

Representatives of the Library of Congress, Providence Public Library and the Newark Public Library were abroad making purchases for their libraries.

The reference libraries of Europe are very much ahead of ours.

All the Public Libraries of Great Britain have a central building. I was impressed with the necessity for the addition of this most important feature to our own system, and upon my return home this was brought to my mind very forcibly by reading in the papers that the property now leased as an office building was likely to be taken for park purposes.

American libraries make better provision for children than do foreign libraries.

Most of the English Public Libraries separate boys from girls.

Children's rooms are open only between 5 and 9.

The decimal system of classification, same as adopted in Brooklyn, is used both in Leeds and Manchester, two of the largest Public Libraries in England.

Some advantages of the trip were :

In making connections with prominent booksellers on the Continent and in Great Britain ; in getting into closer touch with the librarians abroad ; in renewing acquaintance among my colleagues made some years ago ; in completing all the sets of magazines now at Montague Branch ; in obtaining a gift of the English Patent Office Reports as far as in print.

Upon landing in Rotterdam on June 24, I spent a day in that city, then going to Amsterdam, where I met C. B. Gerritsen, former Member of Parliament and owner of an excellent private library. Dr. Andersen visited Brooklyn two weeks ago, and was so favourably impressed with the work of our branches that he stated that Amsterdam, which had no Public Library, would certainly take measures to acquire one within a year. He was much interested in the movement in this country, but was not aware that it could be done in such a satisfactory neighbourhood manner as had been accomplished in Brooklyn.

From Amsterdam I went to Hamburg, where I was fortunate in making the acquaintance of Dr. Platte, who was for eight years librarian at West Point. He is doing splendid work in the Public Library in that city.

Berlin supports twenty-eight branches and twelve reading-rooms on a very meagre appropriation. Mr. Hugo Heimann supports at his own expense a better Public Library than the city.

The neighbouring city of Charlottenberg has a library with many of the characteristics of an American institution. There are 10,000 volumes accessible to the public.

In Dresden Dr. A. B. Meyer, director of the Geological Museum,

conducted me through his institution, which has many interesting library features.

I spent three days in Leipzig paying more attention to the book stores than to the libraries.

At Frankfort the Rothschild library has a curious rule which permits readers to take non-fiction home, but requires them to read novels in the library itself.

In Zurich I met Dr. Henry H. Field, a Brooklyn man, who is doing excellent work in connection with the Concilium Bibliographicum.

In Paris the Arondissement libraries under the control of the Board of Education, first received my attention. The Bibliothèque Nationale is the largest library in the world, having upwards of 3,000,000 volumes.

The British Museum received much of my time. I spent hours in this splendid library.

The Public Libraries of London are located in the different cities making up Greater London, and in the same city there may be three or four libraries with chief librarians, who are responsible to the same body, the Municipal Council.

The Finsbury Library, Clerkenwell, is the best representative of an open shelf system in the city, and the librarian, James Duff Brown, is its strongest advocate.

The Patent Office Library, Mr. Hulme, has a collection of 120,000 volumes, said to be one of the best in the world.

The last weeks of my stay were spent among the provincial towns, going to Cardiff, Wales; Edinburgh and Glasgow, Scotland; and Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool, Bath and Bristol, England.

Liverpool and Manchester have splendid library systems and appear to take the lead in Great Britain, merely looking from the American point of view."—From the *Brooklyn Citizen*.



A CARD CLASS REGISTER.

By A. J. PHILIP, *Public Library, Gravesend.*

o o o

IT is rash to describe anything as "new" in library practice, as one is constantly finding inventions of to-day in use fifty or a hundred years ago, or in the libraries of the Middle Ages. The following, however, is not in general use; there is therefore the possibility that it is not in use at all: at all events, it may be of interest to those who have to face the ever-recurring difficulties of a fixed classification and the ordinary form of shelf catalogue. The circumstance which gave rise to the scheme was the necessity of preparing a system of partial open access. This partial or discretionary open access made a simple shelf notation essential, for use with the indicator method of issue and charging, together with a close moveable classification. The use of the accession number as the call number was too clumsy, and was

absolutely impossible with the catalogue proposed. And the size of the lending library for which it was devised, some 8,000 volumes, made the application of the Dewey or the Quinn-Brown Adjustable classifications in their entirety inadvisable. A compromise was therefore effected, suitable enough under the particular circumstances, but arranged without any view to general application. This point was of less importance, as within each class the sub-sections may be so readily re-arranged.

A short definition of the use of the term "class register" may be advisable. It is applied to that short-entry list of books usually in the lending library, and known variously as the shelf-register, stock-book, class catalogue, and by that name used above, viz., class register.

The books are divided into fourteen main classes, lettered "A" to "O" inclusive, and omitting "I." They are :

- Theology and Religion.
- Philosophy and Psychology.
- Law, Politics, and Social Life and Science.
- History and Laws of Literature and Language.
- Natural and Mathematical Sciences.
- Applied Science, and Fine, Useful, and Recreative Art.
- General Geography, Topography, and Travel.
- History.
- General Biography.
- Prose Fiction.
- Juvenile Literature.
- Music.
- Poetry and the Drama.
- Miscellaneous.

Religious history will be placed in the first class, in the same way that individual biographies are placed in the classes which the work of their subjects warrants, and not in the general classes "Biography" and "History." "General Biography" applies equally to works containing a number of individual biographies and to single lives of individuals whose work embraced a variety of pursuits. Each of these classes is again divided into sections, *i.e.*, the sub-sections in Class A are at present :

- Bible Texts.
 - " " Old Testament only.
 - " " New Testament only.
 - " Commentaries.
 - " " Old Testament only.
 - " " New Testament only.
- Christology.
- Religion.
- Science and Religion.
- Theology.
- Religious and Church History and Geography.
- History of the Bible.

LIBRARY MAGAZINES: THEIR PREPARATION AND PRODUCTION.

By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS *and* JAMES D. STEWART, *Croydon Public Libraries.*

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V.

CATALOGUING THE ADDITIONS.

22. The question of the treatment of additions practically resolves itself into a discussion of codes of cataloguing rules. The scope of these articles can scarcely be said to embrace such a discussion; and, in general, the method of cataloguing for the magazine must be in consonance with the current practice of the library. However, English codes of rules dealing with subjectival catalogues are few, and probably the most practical of them, that by Mr. L. Stanley Jast, is only accessible in serial form scattered over three volumes of the *Library World*. As this code has stood the test of practical application for a number of years and has been proved absolutely satisfactory, we have thought it desirable to give it here in a condensed form. We alone are responsible for the condensation. All argument and explanation have been omitted, although we have retained many of Mr. Jast's examples. It has also been brought up-to-date. To librarians who contemplate the issue of a magazine we commend a careful examination of this code, which we are convinced needs only to be more widely known to be more widely used.

ABRIDGED JAST CODE OF RULES FOR CLASSIFIED CATALOGUING.

DEFINITIONS.

1. **Entry**—all information given in the catalogue.
2. **Description**—includes the Mark and all that comes before it.
3. **Note**—whatever comes after the Mark.
4. **Heading**—all that precedes the Title; the Title does not need defining.
5. **Aftertitle**—all that comes between the Title and the Imprint.
6. **Imprint**—covers volumes, illustrations, date and the like, and series.
7. **Mark**—number or symbol by which the book is arranged.

THE HEADING.

When not under Author.

8. Enter works about works under the author of the works treated of, as:

MENDELSSOHN-BARTHOLDY, FELIX. **Hathaway, J.**
W. G. An Analysis of M.'s Organ Works.

9. Enter works about persons under the persons, as :

SHAKESPEARE, WILLIAM. **Dowden, Edward. S. :** His Mind and Art.

The Author.

10. "Author" means the person who writes a book, or who is cause of its existence.

11. Editors of collections are to be regarded as authors. In the case of a collection from a single writer, the book goes under the writer, but the editor is given a sub-author entry, as :

Hunt, Leigh. Kent, Charles, (Ed.). L. H. as Poet and Essayist : Choicest Passages from His Works.

12. Do not distinguish between compilers, adapters, selectors, etc.: call them all editors.

13. Following rule 10 put

a Government publications under country, and then department.

b Societies not local, under first word, not an article, of name.

c Local societies, under place, and then name.

14. Or in *a* leave out country when Great Britain, entering under the department only ; as :

Home Office. Reports of H.M. Inspector of Mines for the Liverpool District, 1898.

But

United States. Geological Survey. Gilbert, G. K. Lake Boneville.

15. If the work is "by" somebody, as in preceding example, a sub-author entry is necessary.

16. Treat publications of publishing societies, as the Parker Society, as separate works under their own authors, with the name of the society added as a series-title.

Anonymous works.

17. Enter anonymous works under the first word, not an article, of the title, if the author is not known. All works are anonymous which do not bear the author's name on the title-page.

18. But enter under author where possible, and write *Anon.* after the name, *e.g.* :

Smith, Harry. Anon. The Old Beech Tree.

Under What Name and Part of Name.

19. Enter kings, popes, friars, persons canonized, and others known chiefly by their first names, under the first name ; all others under the surname.

20. Enter compound names under the last part of the name is English or naturalized foreign ; under the first part if foreign. When entry is under last part give first part in full with hyphen, as :

Gould, Sabine Baring-.

21. Enter surname with prefix, if English, under prefix; if French, under prefix, except "de" and "d'"; if any other language do not enter under prefix. Prefixes spelled as part of the name are to be entered in that form, *e.g.* **Vandyok**.
22. Enter married women under their latest names, with earlier names bracketed after; if more than one, in the order they are borne, *e.g.* :
Lean, Mrs. Francis, (Florence Marryat, Mrs. Ross Church).
23. Enter under the latest name; therefore, put noblemen under their titles, *e.g.* **Lytton, Edward Bulwer-, Lord**.
24. Enter pseudonymous books under the real name if known, adding the pseudonym in italics between brackets, *e.g.*
Stannard, Mrs. H. E. V., (J. S. Winter).
 Cross reference *Winter, J. S.* See **Stannard, Mrs. H. E. V.**
25. Where a name is known to be a pseudonym but the real name is unknown, enter under pseudonym and italicise it. If uncertain treat as a real name.
26. Phrases are not pseudonyms, and books bearing a phrase for the author are to be treated anonymous, *e.g.*,
METAL TURNING; by a Foreman Pattern Maker.
27. But, if the name is known, the phrase may be bracketed after it like a pseudonym, and referred from, when it is constantly used, as **Jordan, Denham, (A Son of the Marshes).**

The Forename.

28. If there is one forename, put in full; if more, put initials only; thus, **Cromie, Robert**; but, **Crocker, B. M.**
29. In applying rule 28, do not drag from their oblivion forenames dropped by an author. Thus, enter **Dickens, Charles**, not **Dickens, C. H. J.** because he happened to be christened Charles John Huffam Dickens. Call an author what he calls himself.
30. Enter all title prefixes, *e.g.* *Rev. Col. Sir*, etc., using the accepted abbreviations, but only when used by writers as part of their names. Thus, **Henslow, Rev. Prof. George**; but **Huxley, T. H.**, because the latter did not describe himself as professor.
31. Disregard title suffixes, *e.g.* LL.D., M.D. etc.

Dual or Multi-Authorship.

32. In cases of dual authorship, enter under both authors, referring to the second in the author-index, and under the topic when desirable. Write **O'Gorman, Daniel, and Young, J. R.**; not **O'Gorman, Daniel, and J. R. Young**. Refer as **Young, J. R.** See **O'Gorman, Daniel, and Young**.
33. When there are more than two authors, enter the first, adding in italics, *and Others*.

34. When several distinct treatises by various authors appear in one volume, these should appear. Example, the Badmington treatise on Fencing, to be entered thus :

Pollock, W. H., and Others. Fencing ; Boxing ; by **E. B. Michell** ; Wrestling ; by **W. Armstrong.**

"And Others" in this case refers to "Fencing," which, having more than two authors, follows rule 33.

35. When the author's name is used in more than one form, use the best known, and enter thus, **Donatello, Donato Bardi, called.**

THE TITLE.

What to Omit.

36. Omit only non-informative or redundant matter. In all cases of doubt, retain.
37. Never abridge at the first word, not an article, of the title.
38. Omit an article at the beginning of the title when it does not affect the meaning, but retain where doubtful.
39. Never omit words affecting the grammar of the title.
40. First titles of novels should rarely be abridged, but secondary titles should be disregarded unless they supply some definite information about the story.
41. Secondary titles of non-fictional works are often the most informative, and should generally be retained.
42. Examples of abridged titles ; parts left out are bracketed :
- Woman's Influence in the East : (as Shown in the Noble Lives of Past Queens of India.
- Mad 'Tour : (or a Journey Undertaken in an Insane Moment) Through Central Europe on Foot.
- : (being the) Report of the Education Section.
- : (a Treatise on the) Meanings of Armorial Bearings.

Additions.

43. Add nothing unless it is absolutely necessary to complete the sense. An "and" or a "with" will as a rule be all that is required.
44. All added matter must be put within square brackets.

Punctuation.

45. Use ":" between the main and secondary titles, and ";" to
 • separate different treatises bound together, as :
 Art of England ; Pleasures of England : Lectures in Oxford.
46. Use ":" to introduce a special or supplementary statement, as :
 Colour : a Text-Book of Modern Chemistry : with Applications to Art and Industry.
 but not when the connection is too close.
47. The punctuation on the title page should be altered to conform to these rules. Brackets should be replaced by commas.

Capitalisation.

48. Capitalise every word in a title except connecting words and articles.
49. In all other parts of the entry, capitalise only when grammatically necessary.

Names in Titles.

50. Treat forenames of persons occurring in a title according to rule 28 ; but do not supply a full name where only an initial is given. Enter fictitious names without change.
51. A title in a title, or names of ships, etc., in a title, are distinguished by inverted commas.

Translations.

52. In translations give the original titles when quoted in the book, as :
Kant, Immanuel. On Education. (Ueber Pädagogik.)
53. If, however, the title of the English version differs from the original, the original title must be added :
Hugo, Victor. By Order of the King. (L'Homme qui Rit.)
54. State the language of the book when this is not clear from the title, *e.g.* :
Erckmann and Chatrian. Waterloo. (In French.)
Hugo. Les Misérables. (In English.)
Spenser. Faery Queen. (Modernised spelling.)

Dates.

55. Add, in square brackets, dates of periods dealt with, to titles of works on history.
56. In histories "from the earliest times," give only the date to which the work is brought down.
57. Add dates of journeys to works of travel, as :
Decle. Three Years in Savage Africa [1891-94].
58. Of collective biographies which fall into any sequence which can be called a period, as :
Wilkinson. From Cromwell to Wellington: Twelve Soldiers [1642-1852].
59. Of correspondence and diaries, as :
Landor. Letters, Private and Public [1838-63].

Abbreviations.

60. Do not abbreviate words in titles ; but, if an important word is repeated, it may be represented by its initial when the meaning is perfectly clear, as :
Fiske. Discovery of America : with Some Account of Ancient A. and the Spanish Conquest.

(To be continued.)

THE HOME LIBRARY IN THE UNITED STATES.

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THE Home Library movement is rapidly becoming a recognized branch of philanthropic work. The object of the movement is to place good books within the reach of those children whose opportunities for reading are confined to unwholesome literature. A library case, containing about twenty books, is placed in the home of a child who acts as librarian. Once a week a group of ten or twelve children from the neighbourhood, under the direction of a volunteer visitor, gather about the library case to exchange books, discuss the books they have read, play games, tell stories, and have a general good time. When a set of books has been sufficiently read, it is moved on to a new group, and another case takes its place.

In Boston, Baltimore, and Philadelphia, the home libraries are supervised by charitable institutions. In New York, Cincinnati, Helena, and Pittsburg they are maintained by the Public Libraries. The charitable and library associations in Providence combine in the work. Brooklyn, Chicago, and Albany have placed them under the management of library schools and associations. Boston and Pittsburg alone have paid supervisors in charge of the work.

The home library work was first developed on a large scale by Charles W. Birtwell, Superintendent of the Children's Aid Society of Boston."--C. R. Henderson; *Modern Methods of Charity*.



THE LIBRARY PRESS.

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AN editorial on the new "A.L.A. Book-list" occupies the most prominent position in the March *Library Journal*. "It is a satisfaction to welcome the A.L.A. Book-list, of which the first number has just been issued by the A.L.A. Publishing Board, as a beginning in the 'evaluation' of current books for librarians by librarians, so long discussed and so long desired." It is a pleasure to welcome it, but it cannot be welcomed "as a beginning." The *Library World* has been evaluating current books for librarians by librarians for the last five years, and many tributes have been paid to its usefulness. The selection, not of current but of "Religious and Theological Books" for Public Libraries is dealt with by George F. Bowerman. Mr. Bowerman makes a plea for the more general recognition of the claims of the religious section. Difficulties often arise in choosing for purchase religious, and especially theological books, or in deciding their acceptance as gifts, which do not arise in connection with any

other class of books. "A broad inclusive policy should be followed. All the leading works on religion and religions should be purchased, from those on the earliest pagan religions to those on the leading Christian and non-Christian religions of the present day. Encyclopædias, dictionaries, commentaries, concordances, and bibliographies, those of earlier publication so far as they are still of value, and those of recent date, the most conservative and the most liberal, should all find a place in the public library." The writer proceeds to examine the claims of controversial, sectarian and other works, and deals with his subject in a comprehensive fashion. William J. Fletcher forecasts the "Future of the Catalog." Of the dictionary catalogue he says: "I do not intend to intimate that the dictionary catalog is a thing to be disbelieved in and rejected, but rather to suggest that it has the character of a superstition in so far as it is accepted and religiously carried out on grounds that are traditional, rather than on any intelligent conviction that it meets present needs and is good for the future needs for which we must make provision. Two enormous changes have occurred in the library world since the dictionary catalog secured by virtue of its adaptation to things as they then were its commanding pre-eminence among catalog forms. One of these changes is in the size of our libraries, and the consequent extent and complexity of their catalogs. The other is in methods of administration and in the temper in which the relation of a library to its patrons is conceived." He comes to the conclusion that public catalogues of any description will soon become useless owing to the introduction of two features in library work. "The two factors are, first, access to minutely classified books on the shelves, and second, the reference librarian, or in smaller libraries the librarian, acting as guide, philosopher, and friend. Who wants a catalog now? Clearly not the reader, whose ends are served by substitutes we have provided. No, it is now the attendant who wants the catalog, and if it is made for the attendant it will not be the old-fashioned catalog. From this point of view I look to see developed in various libraries, to take the place of the formal subject-catalog, interesting pieces of literary apparatus, taking shape from the individuality of the librarian or the reference librarian, and best adapted in each case to aid in exploiting most fully and most readily the resources of the library. This apparatus will consist of a constantly increasing collection of references; lists, made on the spot or procured from others; hap-hazard notes gathered in reading; anything which may prove a key to some literary treasure. It may be in the form of a card catalog or it may not. The cards in the catalog at the attendant's hand may be an index to a mass of material written on larger or smaller sheets laid in drawers or kept in a vertical-file cabinet." The difficulty of keeping an account of books in a University library, where they may be reference books one day, and in circulation the next, leads Willard Austen to describe "A Banking Method of Charging Books." The method is to allow a qualified borrower to draw out books on the guarantee of his signature in the same way that he would draw money from a bank. A freshman is allowed to draw two volumes, to be

kept two weeks; a senior, five volumes with a month's limitation, and a professor has credit to the number of thirty volumes with no time limit on those used for his work. A long extract is given from Mr. Jast's address on American libraries.

The April *Library Journal* is a School number. Mr. E. W. Gaillard describes an interesting experiment with bulletin boards in school library work taking place in New York. These boards set forth the terms under which teachers and pupils may use the library. One rule especially is worthy of note: "Teachers are often asked to endorse their pupils' applications for the privilege of using the library. This library regards such endorsements from teachers in the day schools merely as notes of introduction, and guarantors are not held financially responsible for losses that result from applications which have been signed for their pupils." The boards also call attention to the fact that the library prepares each week a set of books on the subject appearing on the school term plans. Miss A. C. Moore contributes a long paper on the story hour at the Pratt Institute Free Library. She sums up: "I firmly believe that some kind of story hour is both perfectly possible and highly desirable in every library where work with children is being done, whether it be a small and poor library or a rich and institutionalized one. The first essential is that someone shall believe in it in heart and soul, and since the way to that belief lies far back in childhood, there is no alternative but to get back into one's own childhood; the next step is to muster all one's resources and prepare to make them tell toward the desired object; and, finally, to take all the things one is unable to do personally, find people who can do them and so order the work that it will seem an easy and a pleasant to come into it as a storyteller." Other shorter papers are on "The School Library Question in New York City"; "Work with Children and Schools in the Portland Public Library"; and "Notes on the Hartford Public Library in Relation to the Schools."

The November-December number of the *Literary Collector* is just to hand. It appears in a new and decidedly artistic *format*, and is as pleasing a magazine as a bibliophile could desire to have on his shelves. Henry E. Legler contributes a long and interesting bibliographical article on Longfellow's "Hiawatha," dealing with its origin, translations, and contemporary parodies. An appreciative obituary note on George H. Richmond, the well known and popular bookseller of New York, follows, and is accompanied by an "only authentic likeness" from the pencil of Frank A. Nankivell. There are many interesting notes, among them the following:—"American librarians have for long seemed to be absorbed in the mechanical and technical problems of library administration, to the detriment of their growth as bibliographers. They have held the palm for the best modern methods of providing the public with books, but have not approached their English *confrères* in the ability to put the mind of the student into contact with the contents of books. We shall gradually outgrow this distinction. Such signs as the formation of an American Bibliographical Society . . . show the trend of our library spirit."

The January-February *Literary Collector* opens with an account of seventeenth century American almanacs by Emily Foster Happer, and Arnold Lethbridge humorously examines a "thoroughly unique" catalogue of a private library. The frontispiece is a portrait of William Dunlap, about whom, it will be remembered, an article appeared some months ago.

The latest addition to the ranks of the Library Press is the *Wisconsin Library Bulletin*, the March number of which has come to hand. It is issued by the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, and is typographically similar to the *Library Journal*. It records, primarily, library progress in Wisconsin, but contains also many useful notes on library work.

The *Library Assistant* for April contains a brief abstract of R. A. Peddie's address on "Librarianship as a Profession," and a compilation on "John Day," by F. J. P. Burgoyne.

The principal item in the May *Library Assistant* is a brief *résumé* of the entire question of Library Bulletins by Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers. Owing to the treatment of so large a subject in so small a space, the information is, of course, very much condensed, but to those who do not know much about the subject it will be an admirable introduction. There is also a short paper on the Juvenile Library by George F. Vale.

The April number of the *L. A. Record* contains the first instalment of Maurice B. Adams' paper on "Public Libraries: Their Building and Equipment." Says Mr. Adams: "That a considerable number of these institutions now in progress of erection are admirably planned, few would attempt to deny; but are we quite so sure that the majority of them are exactly equal to the demands which are already asserting themselves in regard to the ever-extending enterprise of education, which, in the near future, is calculated to assume even still larger proportions? He does not think this question can be answered in the affirmative, and gives his ideas as to the qualities necessary in a building that is to fulfil the requirements. He has also tried to give the opinions of the librarians themselves by boiling down a large number of answers received to circulars. At the outset, he complains of the limited rate as being responsible for much that is wrong. "The penny rate was fixed more than fifty years ago, when the question of Public Libraries was treated, as all experiments naturally are, in a half-hearted way, and, as a consequence, what was then thought ample has not only become an inadequate provision, but it is no longer capable of ensuring any real economy." The paper is illustrated by a number of plans. A very good short paper on the methods of popularising standard books other than novels is supplied by Mr. G. H. Elliott, who is of the opinion that open access, bibliographical guides, and similar features, can do much towards the desired end. Mr. James L. Dougan gives a brief description of the collection of books for the blind at Oxford.



LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS.

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REPORTS.

Library of Congress. Report of the Librarian of Congress for the Fiscal Year ending June 30th, 1904. 522 pp. 5 *illus.* 7 *plans.* Washington, 1904.

This report, as usual, is an interesting one, and fully maintains its position as one of the most inspiring of professional publications. To examine it in detail would be beyond the scope of this column, so we must content ourselves with a brief glance at some of the more important items. The library has increased during the year by 80,136 volumes, and 61,351 manuscripts, maps, pieces of music, and prints. The recorded number of visitors was 816,700, and the total expenditure \$555,968.12. The library now contains 1,179,713 volumes, and 723,882 manuscripts, &c., and employs 303 persons. Some of Mr. Putnam's remarks upon the staff are interesting. After noting various outside positions secured by members of the staff, he says: "The departure from our service of many skilled and experienced workers in subordinate positions is a serious loss not readily to be made good. Yet it represents a tendency to which we must submit, in which, indeed, we should take a certain satisfaction. For it implies that the National Library may become a training school, at least a school of useful experience for library workers in advanced fields. . . . The supply of trained workers to other libraries opens now an interesting, if unpremeditated, possible service of the National Library to the country at large. The library could not take the place of the library schools; it can not undertake to teach the 'elements.' . . . But to those well equipped in these preliminaries a few years at the National Library can now, I believe, be regarded as an experience of high stimulus and utility for that advanced service which will increasingly be demanded in those of our libraries serving the investigator, and which will not be superfluous in any of them." Such a result would undoubtedly be productive of certain advantages, not the least of which would be a standardization of methods. The work of the Division of Manuscripts is described, and the policy of the library in acquiring manuscripts outlined. It does not compete with local institutions in the purchase of material of merely local interest, nor does it seek to obtain by gift manuscripts that possess only a local value; such material is better kept in the various State libraries, leaving documents of national and general interest to be housed in the Library of Congress. The work of the Catalogue Division is fully dealt with, and particulars are given of the distribution of printed catalogue cards. The number of subscribers has increased about 35 per cent during the year, bringing the total up to 387, so that this work is now well established as a feature in the economy of American libraries. Twenty-five depository centres in America now contain complete sets, and

arrangements have been made to deposit sets at Brussels and Sydney. "The most noticeable change in the method of distribution during the year has resulted from the decision to supply cards in quantities to publishers to circulate among libraries as a means of advertising their publications, as well as for use in cataloguing. One of the leading publishing houses has purchased for this purpose about 20,000 cards. How this indirect method of distribution will affect the work at the Library of Congress, it is as yet too early to determine." Various appendices are included, among them being an illustrated report on the exhibit of the Library of Congress at the St. Louis Exposition. Part two of the volume is composed of a "Select List of Recent Purchases."

St. Louis, 1903-04. Stock 175,578 volumes; volumes issued 1,051,285; borrowers 59,476; expenditure for year \$280,908. 15,414 volumes have been added during the year. An analysis of the registration of various parts of the city reveals the fact that the commercial and professional classes use the library more than any others, and also that those who have had occasion to use the library are most willing to vote appropriations for its maintenance and enlargement. There is an interesting note on the model library at the St. Louis Exposition.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Malvern Public Library. Free Libraries: Their Uses and Ideals. By Prof. Knight, LL.D. 31 pp. 8vo. Portraits. 1905.

An address delivered at the laying of the foundation-stone of the Malvern Public Library on 8th February. Much better than the usual opening ceremony address, and very comprehensive: beginning with the idea of books, and working down through the history of the Public Library movement, with digressions on such topics as the uses of libraries to women.

CATALOGUES.

Brighton Public Library. Victoria Lending Library. Class List of Philology and Literature. 210 pp. 8vo. 1905. Price 6d.

This is part three of the classified catalogue of the lending department. It is compiled on the same lines as the parts already noted. The Dewey classification is employed, and the first three letters of the author's name are added to the class mark; as:

414 PHONOLOGY. VISIBLE SPEECH.

⁴¹⁴ Bell (Alexander Melville). The science of speech. 1897.
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Entries are fairly full, and contents set out where necessary. A pleasing example of good classified cataloguing.

Waterloo-with-Seaforth Public Library. Classified List of Books in the Library on Natural Science, Useful Arts, and Fine and Recreative Arts. Compiled by Kate Fearnside, Librarian. 62 pp. 1905.

This also is a class list arranged according to Dewey, and is compiled on practically identical lines. An excellent list.

BULLETINS.

Bromley Public Library. Occasional List, 4: Reading List on Botany and Horticulture. *Gratis.* A two-page, brief title list, arranged under broad headings. No annotations are given, but a point of interest is the marking employed to give a rough indication of the character of the book. Thus, an italic *b* preceding the author's name signifies "best"; a *p*, popular; *e*, elementary, and so on. All entries are not thus marked, however, and what is a reader to think in such cases?

Brooklyn: *Bulletin.* March. The usual brief author list of additions.

Harlesden: *Class List of Additions to the Library.* March. *Gratis.* The first number of a quarterly magazine, issued by arrangement with Messrs. Willis. It contains the first portion of an article on "The Parish of Willesdon" and an annotated list of additions. The annotations are curiously uneven in quality, some being exceedingly good and others very bad. We would suggest that in future numbers an annotated reading list, or some similar feature, be given instead of the article, which, after all, is of purely antiquarian interest and hardly within the province of the library.

Nottingham: *Library Bulletin.* May. Price ½d. We must again note a slight improvement on this bulletin, which has gained in every way from a more vigorous censorship over matter.

Pratt Institute: *Monthly Bulletin.* January-February. *Gratis.* With this number, this bulletin appears in a new form, being about half the former size, with an increased number of pages. The arrangement of contents has also been changed from an alphabetical to a classed form. It is decidedly a change for the better.

St. Louis: *Monthly Bulletin.* April. Contains a classified and annotated list of additions.



LIBRARIES AND LIBRARIANS.

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[Special notes of general interest are invited for this department.]

Aberdeen.—The new reading room and altered reference room of the Public Library were opened on May 18th. The change of the reading room from its previous vault-like quarters to a light and airy situation is highly appreciated, while the alterations in the arrangements of fixtures and furniture in the reference room gives increased accommodation to students.

Battersea.—The local collection in the Public Library has received considerable additions, and bids fair to become of considerable value and interest; books, photographs, prints, pictures, engravings, &c., bearing on local subjects, are solicited.

Bethnal Green.—*The Westminster Review* for May, contains an article entitled "The working of an East End library", a plea for Bethnal Green Public Library, which has outgrown its present ancient quarters, and constantly grows in usefulness under Mr. G. F. Hilcken's care.

Boldon.—At the name of Boldon one's thoughts go back to that great survey of the county palatine of Durham, made in A.D. 1183, and called the "Boldon Buke," a valuable supplement to Domesday Book; and somehow it seems fit and proper to find that a Public Library has been provided in this now populous mining centre. The building has been erected mainly through the munificence of Dr. Carnegie, who contributed £1,600 for the erection of the building.

Chelmsford.—Mr. J. W. Howarth, who for some years past has been chief-assistant at the Warrington Municipal Library and Museum, has secured the position of Librarian and Curator of the new Public Library and Museum at Chelmsford, a post for which some twenty years' experience renders him eminently suitable. Mr. C. E. Ridley, J.P., is first in the field as a donor of books for the library, a letter, containing his generous offer of £100, being read at the Town Council Meeting, on May 30th.

Coatbridge (N.B.).—On May 18th the new Public Library, erected at a cost of £15,000, was opened by Councillor William Orr, who expressed regret at the absence of Dr. Carnegie, to whom the building is due. Mr. James Gardiner, the librarian, may well be proud of this commodious and handsome structure.

Criccieth.—The opening ceremony of the Public Library, announced in our issue of April, duly took place on Easter Monday, when Mr. Greaves, Lord Lieutenant of Carnarvonshire, formally declared the building open. The library, a commodious structure with the principal rooms on two floors, was designed by Mr. Rowland L. Jones, the county architect.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—Mr. John Taylor, the librarian, has succeeded in providing an admirable series of lectures throughout the winter months, his great object being "to arouse a more wide-spread acquaintance with the useful and wholesome literature to be found at the library." The last of the series was delivered by Mr. W. Crowther, librarian of Derby Public Library, on American Humorists, and provided a delightful hour's entertainment.

Eastbourne.—On May 15th, Dr. Carnegie visited Eastbourne, and received the freedom of that borough in recognition of his splendid gift to the Public Library and Institute. *The Daily Graphic* of May 17th gives a good portrait of Dr. Carnegie, and a view of the buildings towards which he contributed £10,000.

Falmouth.—At the meeting of the Public Library Authority on April 27th, it was stated that not a single book had been lost since the library was opened. The librarian's report was most satisfactory and showed that great and growing interest is taken in the library. Several recent gifts are recorded.

Govan.—Mr. R. Robertson, the librarian, writes us that though the views of the library, on which we based our report in last month's issue, show no upper floor, there is a second story, but with its windows hidden from near view by the stone balustrade in front.

Haddington, N.B.—Some hundreds of volumes have been presented by the Prime Minister to the Town Library, and will shortly be available for issue.

Hamilton, N.B.—Mr. Cullen's plans for the Public Library have passed the Dean of Guild Court. On the ground floor will be the lending library and reading rooms, while the upper floor will be devoted to the reference library, ladies' room, and a lecture hall.

Hammersmith.—*The Builder*, May 20th, contains a plate illustrative of Sculpture for the Hammersmith Central Library. The figures of Shakespeare and Milton are particularly striking, being 8-ft in height, and executed in Portland stone.

Hull.—Apropos the discussion on the "Newspaper Room" in our recent issues, we note serious trouble in the Hull Public Libraries, where the tramp and the betting loafer are just now too much in evidence. A sub-committee has been appointed to deal with such undesirables. We have our own views on the method to be adopted, but probably their application would be considered too drastic in these democratic days.

Islington.—Considerable progress has been made in the work of organizing a library system for this large Metropolitan borough. Three sites have been secured, out of the five required, and there is a limited competition now proceeding for the design of the central library in Holloway Road. Architects nominated by Mr. John Belcher, A.R.A., have been appointed to prepare designs for the four branch libraries, and Mr. Henry T. Hare has completed his plan for the North branch in Upper Holloway. The West branch, for the Barnsbury and Caledonian Road districts, has been entrusted to Professor Beresford Pite, and as all the architects selected are men of distinction, it is hoped that Islington will secure a unique series of buildings. Temporary offices have been established at 20, St. Mary's Road, near Highbury Station, and there Mr. James Duff Brown, the chief librarian, will carry on the work of organization.

Jerusalem.—Mr. Israel Abrahams is appealing to the Anglo-Jewish Public in support of the Central Library in Jerusalem. This institution is carried on by the Jewish community, who have formed a committee in London to give regular help to the library,

King's Lynn.—On May 18th Dr. Carnegie opened the new Public Library buildings, towards which he has subscribed so liberally. Many pleasing remarks passed from Dr. Carnegie worthy of being enshrined in Britons' memories, and the day's proceedings will not soon be forgotten by the good folk of Lynn in general, and by Mr. Maw, the librarian, in particular, especially as to the latter gentleman Dr. Carnegie privately intimated his willingness to give additional aid, if necessary.

Mr. Herbert J. Green, the architect, has succeeded in producing a building of great exterior attraction, with interior suited to its purpose as a Public Library.

Leicester.—The new Central Public Library was opened by Dr. Carnegie on May 8th, and proves to be a building worthy of the large sum it has cost. Without much evidence of ambitious external ornament we have here a pleasing exterior, and a practical, useful interior, eminently adapted for its purpose. Mr. Edward Burgess, the architect, presented Dr. Carnegie with a commemorative gold key.

London: Guildhall.—From the *City Press* we learn that:

"Mr. Deputy White still perseveres with his scheme for the transfer to the Guildhall Library of the records of the past embodied in the minute books of City parishes. Little by little, he is convincing even those who at the outset were bitterly opposed to his suggestion. Up to the present time no fewer than 38 parishes have already deposited their old books at the library, while the rectors and churchwardens of several others are considering the advisability of following the example thus set. In the vestries of the churches the books, for the most part, are exposed to loss by robbery, and destruction by fire, and in addition they are generally inaccessible to the student who seeks to delve into the dim and distant past. At the Guildhall Library, on the other hand, they are carefully stored in strong rooms, and may be consulted at any time by those who make the necessary application to the librarian."

Lowestoft.—The Public Library in Clapham Road, erected by means of Dr. Carnegie's gift of £6,000, was opened on May 11th, by the Mayoress (Miss E. Tuttle). Mr. George Leighton, the architect, was heartily congratulated on his success in designing the large and handsome building.

Mansfield.—The *Nottingham Express*, of May 18th, contains an illustration of the New Public Library (opened on May 24th), to which we hope to refer again.

Montrose.—The *Montrose Standard* has been publishing a series of articles by Mr. E. Pinnington, on the Public Library. They are pleasantly discursive, touching on things ancient and modern, and occasionally illustrated. The "Brown Mansion," built in 1688, was figured recently, and in the issue of April 29th we had a likeness of Mr. J. Christison, the librarian.

Onich (N.B.).—To the long list of Highland and other villages benefited by the kindly thought of Mr. James Coats, jun., must now be added Onich, in Kalmallie Parish, Inverness, to which he has presented a small library of books in bookcases.

Peterborough.—Mr. W. J. Willcock, the librarian, contributed to the *Peterborough Advertiser*, of April 22nd, a capital plea for the utility of the Public Library, together with a satisfactory report on the past year's work.

Southend.—By the casting vote of the Mayor it was decided, on May 16th, to proceed at once with the erection of the Public Library. Let us hope that with this decision the somewhat heated feelings on the library question may cool, and the Council work together to make the institution a success.

Southport.—Mr. F. H. Mills, the Public Librarian, reports that wanton damage has been done in the reference library, a copy of the large "Standard Dictionary" having been mutilated, its valuable coloured plates being torn and mutilated. Fortunately such vandalism is rare in our libraries, though even the British Museum Library has suffered occasionally, and a similar complaint came from Preston in April.

Wallasey.—The great betting-news question was raised at the meeting of the Library Committee on May 11th, but Mr. E. A. Baker, the librarian, agreed with some members that interest in racing news does not necessarily imply betting, and no steps will at present be taken to obliterate racing intelligence.

Waterford.—Dr. Carnegie gives a further sum of £200 to the Public Library, to be used for the necessary equipment thereof, having already presented £5,000 towards the erection of the building.

Woolwich.—The proposed Eltham Carnegie Library and adjoining public buildings are the subject of a plate in *The Building News* of April 28th, from the design of Mr. Maurice B. Adams. The character of the still picturesque street of Eltham is happily retained in Mr. Adams' drawing.

Worthing.—The Library Committee notified to the Town Council the resignation of Mr. P. W. Charles, the honorary librarian, which was accepted with regret. It was determined, on the motion of the Mayor, that a resolution of thanks for his good services should be engrossed on vellum and presented to Mr. Charles.

Wrexham.—Subject to Dr. Carnegie's approval, the design of Mr. Vernon Hodge, of Teddington, will be carried out in the building of the new Public Library. Mr. W. E. Willink, of Liverpool, the consulting architect, spoke in the highest terms of Mr. Hodge's design, which he selected from over a hundred plans sent in by architects.

Mr. J. W. Brown, of Accrington, has been appointed librarian of the Public Library at Kendal. Mr. Brown was four years in this library, whence he went to Shoreditch library for two years, and was afterwards at Cardiff, and in South Africa for some years, he thus returns to Kendal ripe in experience.

We congratulate the Governors of the Linenhall Library, Belfast, upon their selection of **Mr. Burgoyne, jun.**, for the important office of chief librarian. To quote the words of the *Northern Whig*:

"The choice was made in favour of Mr. F. J. P. Burgoyne, the chief senior assistant of Battersea Public Libraries, where he has had seven years' experience in a library containing over 55,000 volumes, and having an average daily issue of 900 volumes. Mr. Burgoyne is a young man possessing most excellent recommendations. He was educated at the City of London Schools and King's College, and holds certificates for practical knowledge of scientific classification, and for library history and administration. . . . It is also interesting to note that Mr. Burgoyne is of a stock eminent for library knowledge, his father being one of the foremost librarians in London, and the author of a most important work on library architecture."

Mr. Mellor, has received the appointment of Public Librarian at Eccles. On Leaving Kendal the committee of that library expressed their high appreciation of the work done by Mr. Mellor and the success which attended his services.

We regret to announce the death of **Mr. George Morgan**, late librarian of Neath Public Library, which took place on May 9th.

Mr. C. F. Newcombe, librarian of the the Passmore Edwards Library, North Camberwell, has contributed a sonnet on "Keats," to the Hampstead Annual for this year.

THE late **Arthur Strong**, Librarian to the House of Lords, has not only been the subject of obituary notice in *The Times*; the *Cornhill Magazine* for May contains a long appreciative article by Sir Rowland Blennerhassett, and Lord Balcarras has contributed a memoir to the recently published volume of Strong's "Critical Studies." To the latter work we hope again to refer.

Mr. W. J. Yellenoweth, who has received the appointment of librarian to Nunhead Public Library, has had good practical experience, having been first librarian of the North Camberwell Library.

Mr. Edward Wood, of Bingley, has been appointed librarian of the new Public Library at Birkdale, Southport.

Mr. Daniel W. Herdman, Assistant in the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Library, has been appointed librarian at Grahamstown. The appointment we understand was made by Mr. John Minto, Chief Librarian of the Brighton Public Library, acting on behalf of the Grahamstown Public Library Committee.

Mr. W. G. Wilding, Sub-Librarian of Bournemouth Public Library has been appointed sub-librarian of the Finsbury Public Libraries.

The "Book Selector" is held over to next month owing to pressure on our space.



LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

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THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE seventh sessional meeting of the Library Association was held at the London School of Economics on May 15th, when Mr. C. T. Davis (Wandsworth) occupied the chair, and Mr. George Smith read an interesting and able paper on "Old Newspapers." This was discussed by Messrs. Prideaux, Hulme, Kettle, Jast, Davis and others, and a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Smith, was carried by the meeting. The accuracy of the Minutes of the previous meeting was called in question, Mr. Chennell claiming that Mr. Savage's amendment

was only substituted for the first part of his original motion and that the latter part should stand. This was agreed to by a majority of the meeting and accordingly the second part of Mr. Chennell's motion, as printed in the *Library World*, p. 305, should be added to Mr. Savage's amendment as printed on p. 306.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

- THE Forty-eighth Meeting of this Association was held at Dudley, on Wednesday, May 17th. The afternoon was spent in exploring the picturesque neighbourhood of the Wren's Nest, the ruins of the ancient Priory, and the Castle grounds. The members were entertained at tea by Alderman Garratt, (Chairman of the Free Library Committee), and afterwards the meeting was held in the Art Gallery, Councillor Walter Hughes, (a vice-president) in the chair.

A paper was read by Mr. Robert K. Dent, on the Librarian as a Collector, and discussion followed. The question for this meeting was introduced by Mr. A. G. Burt, (Handsworth), the subject being: "What should be the scope of the Annual Report of a Public Library." Mr. Burt expressed the opinion that in many cases the size of the Annual Report was in inverse ratio to the size and importance of the library, and expressed himself in favour of a brief and concise report, omitting such matters as ages and occupations of borrowers, lists of additions during the year, reports on the librarian's visits to conferences, &c. A spirited discussion followed, in which many of the members took part. The concluding business of the meeting was the proposal to affiliate the District Association to the Library Association. It was not found practicable to come to a decision owing to the lateness of the hour and the exigency of railway arrangements, and the further consideration of the question was postponed to the Annual Meeting in October.



CORRESPONDENCE.

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EAST LONDON.

SIR,—Mr. Weare in his letter last month has taken exception to a paragraph in an article by us appearing in the April *Library World*. The paragraph is:—

"Again, local conditions exercise no small influence on the matter to be published; the contents must be suitable and attractive to the clientèle of the library. As a consequence, the magazine of, say, the John Rylands' Library would differ in this respect from that of an East End of London library."

We are sorry that Mr. Weare has read into this a meaning never intended by us: that the inhabitants of East London are intellectually inferior to those of other places.

What we wished to express was that an institution like the John Rylands' Library, being utterly different in character from an ordinary

Public Library, must necessarily make a different appeal through its magazine; and also that the local conditions and events of each library district should, to a certain extent, be mirrored in the contents of individual library magazines.

The East of London was certainly not selected because it is supposed by some to be intellectually destitute, but because, being so familiar, it drove the point home. Had we instanced a remote country village, no doubt it would, theoretically, have served our purpose, but it would not have driven our point home with equal force.

That a narrow-minded and ignorant contempt for the East End does exist in various quarters is unfortunately true, but we can assure Mr. Weare that personally we look towards our East—which has produced so many great men—in much the same way as do the Mahomedans to theirs.

W. C. BERWICK SAYERS.
JAMES D. STEWART.

EFFICIENT ASSISTANTS.

Sir,—The subject of courtesy was briefly referred to in your last number, your correspondent wisely agreeing that politeness on the part of library assistants is of paramount importance. Unhappily, from reasons of defective early training or education, the assistant with ideal manners is a rarity.

May I offer a few hints to library assistants on the acquirement of refined manners? In the first place an agreeable talking voice, without twang or objectionable accent, should be acquired, while officiousness, or patronizing manners should be carefully held in check. The assistant should also guard against being too friendly—the hail-fellow-well-met style being particularly offensive to readers of the intellectual class.

Let the assistant be a “living catalogue” if such an abortion be his ambition, the readers will not object to this if he remain as silent and as effectual as his prototype. But the assistant who poses in this capacity too frequently suffers from “swollen head,” his egotism and priggishness running riot to the weariness of an inoffensive public.

The well-meaning youth (and I doubt not your correspondent is such a one) should give his services as intelligently and unostentatiously as possible; all his intercourse with the public should be *to the point*, and while entirely effacing himself and his own assumed cleverness in the process, his sole aim should be to help the inquirer to find the subject or matter he is seeking,

Yours faithfully,

E. K. N. BARTLETT.

May 19th, 1905.

GENERAL INDEX.

Vol. VII, 1904-05.

Compiled by ARNOLD G. BURT, *Librarian*, Public Libraries, Handsworth

(*Corr.*) = Correspondence. (*Rev.*) = Review.

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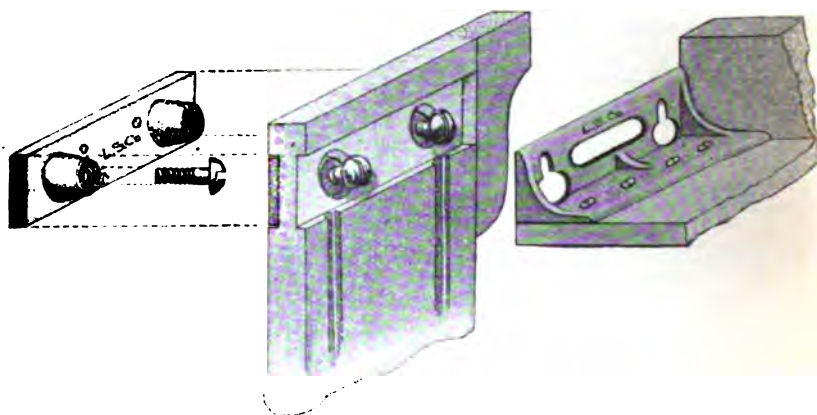
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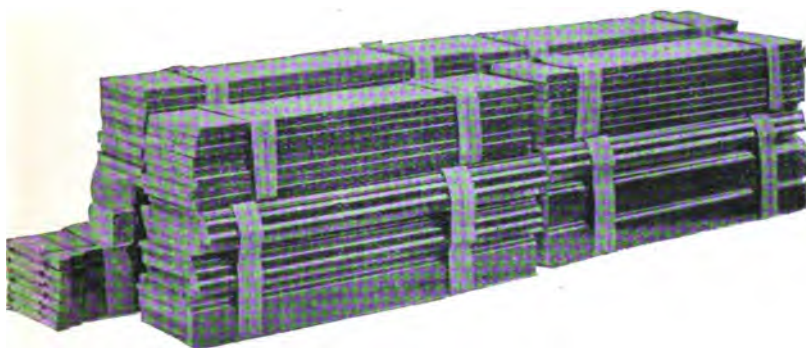
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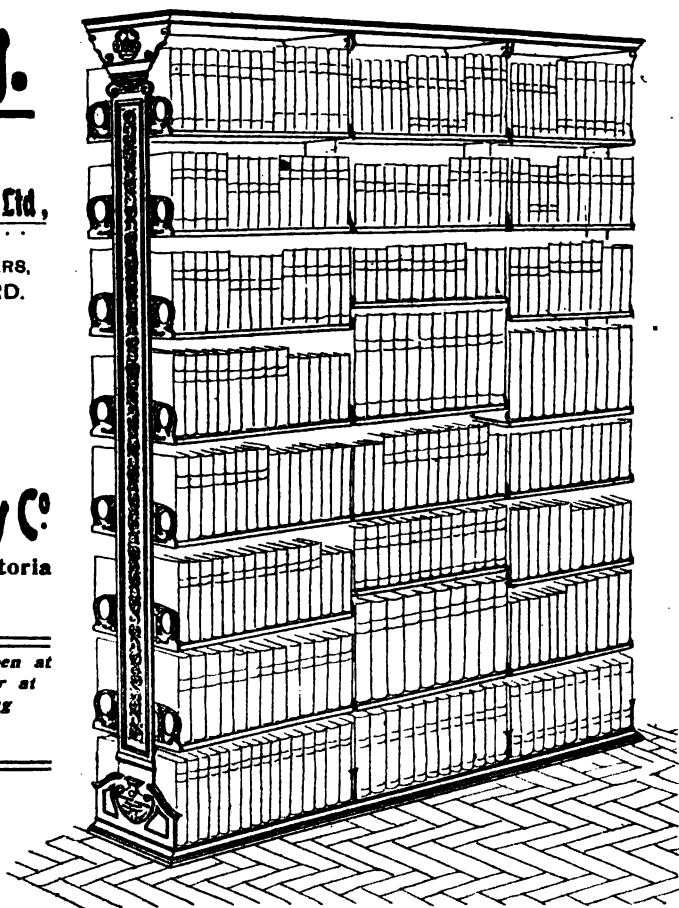


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Printed by MARLBOROUGH, FLETCHER & Co., 32, Old Bailey, London, E.C.4. and Published for the
Proprietors at 151, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

